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THE CONGO MISSIONARY MESSENGER

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To some Christ calls, "Leave boats and bay and white haired Zebedee." (Matt. 4:21).

To some the call is harder, "Stay and mend the nets for me." (I Sam. 30:24).

Vol. XIX JAN.-FEB., 1949 No. 1

THE CONGO INLAND MISSION

A Co-operative Mission in the Belgian Congo

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Address of mission and all missionaries except Mukedi Station and Mutena Station.

Charlesville, Kasai District, Congo Belge Africa.

Cable address **Conin, Charlevsille, Congo Belge.**

Mukedi Station Address: **Mukedi, par Kikwit, District, du Kwango, Congo Belge, Africa.**

Mutena, via Tshikapa, Kasai Dist., Congo Belge, Africa.

The above missionaries represent the following religious bodies:
Mennonite General Conference (15)
Central Conference Mennonites (10)
Evangelical Mennonite Conference (13)
The Evangelical Mennonite Brethren (5)
Missionary Church Association (1)

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THE CONGO MISSIONARY MESSENGER

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Recipe for A Happy New Year

Take twelve fine, full-grown months—see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor, hate, and jealousy. Cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness—in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them as fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of time.

Cut these months into 30 or 31 equal parts. This batch will keep for one year. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many people spoil the entire lot this way). But prepare one day at a time as follows:

Into each day put twelve parts of faith, eleven of patience, ten of courage, nine of work (some people omit this ingredient and spoil the flavor of the rest), eight parts of hope, seven of fidelity, six of liberality, five of kindness, four of rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad), three parts of prayer, two of meditation, and one well-selected resolution.

Then put in about a teaspoon of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a jigger of laughter, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.

Cook thoroughly in a fervent heat, garnish with a few smiles and a sprig of joy, then serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness, and a Happy Year is a certainty!

—Magazine Digest.

Editorials

A Very Blessed New Year to Each of You

MAY 1949 BE THE BEST YEAR!

BEST—Because we just came through another year of grace since the past Holiday season, when we knelt at the Manger and have dedicated anew our life to Him who came to save us. We have had the past year's opportunities to allow God's unlimited grace to bring forth the fruits of dedication and service.

BEST—Because in another year's communion with Him, we have realized more fully the greatness—the sufficiency and the wonder of God's gift to us.

BEST—Because having learned to know Him better, we have learned to love Him more. And loving Him more, we can better serve Him and send the Gospel "to the ends of the earth."

BEST—Because we have kept our appointment with the Hour of Prayer. We have daily closed the door to all that would keep us from entering into the closet alone and there we have prayed as our Lord has commanded us. By investing this daily portion of time, in the unlimited promises of God, we come with an increased capital of spiritual experience that has made us rich indeed.

BEST—Because in prayer we have sought for a revelation of our sinful selves and receiving this have plead anew for the mercy of a forgiving Saviour. Having tasted the refreshing joy of forgiveness, we hail our Redeemer with a keen realization of the reason for His coming. It was so needful. There is no other Saviour!

BEST—Because we have shared our material gifts with those who needed them most and now we may meet our Lord knowing that we have tried to **bed Him,** to **clothe Him,** to **feed Him,** to **shelter Him,** to **comfort Him,** and to **strengthen Him,** "for inasmuch as we did it unto one of the least of His brethren, we have done it unto Him."

BEST—Because we have also tried through the past year to carry out His great commission, "Go ye into all the world!" We have a part in sustaining fields and workers and a part in sending new recruits out. Because we realize the need and the urgency to carry forth into the darkness the light of the Christmas story.

BEST—Because once more we have realized how often we have failed to be and do our best and how completely we needed to lean on our Lord for the guiding and supplying power of the Spirit, we come more humbly, more emptied of ourselves, to receive anew of the fullness of God's wondrous graces for the year 1949.

OFF FOR THE CONGO

Dr. and Mrs. Schwartz now have reservations to leave Belgium on December 31, to return to their work in the Congo. God has been good to them and after their period of study in Bruxells, they are eager to once more take up the medical phase of the missionary activity at Mukedi Station.

Since we only have one Doctor for our medical work in the Congo, his duties and responsibilities are many and he needs our prayers and support in every way. We are deeply grateful for these our faithful workers, who carry on "in our stead" and we pledge anew our prayers and efforts in their behalf. God bless you every one!

(Continued on page 6)

Letters from the Field

BUSY DAYS FOR REV. GRABER

Charlesville, Nov. 5

Congo for Christ, Greetings:

It is hard to believe you will soon be having cold weather, blizzards and snowdrifts. It is warm here at Christmas time but we love that season even as you do in the homeland. I thank you every one for your many prayers and gifts of love that inspire me daily to do my best. May Jesus be always near to comfort and bless you, and may this New Year be one of great happiness and joyful service.

We have been busy with the extra studying due to the change in our Bible School curriculum.

This is November 5. I've been living in the past the last few weeks but how good! God makes no mistake and ever "He is working out his purpose." That thought was brought to me so forcibly through a transcription wire on which was a message for Fannie Schmallenberger from her mother. The song was sung by her three sisters and it was both comforting and inspiring. "God is working out His Purpose."

Almost three weeks ago we made another trip to Tshikapa and after the business was finished we started for home. I saw a storm was gathering in the west and before too long it was lightning and thundering; the wind was blowing and the rain fell in torrents. I asked the native with me if we ought to camp for the night but he said, "Better go on." I preferred waiting until morning because there was a large forest ahead and very often trees are blown down and across the road in such a storm as this. We drove on for a while. Limbs were scattered about and trees had to be cut out of our way but finally we come to one that was too large for us to remove. It was slippery. We backed up for a half mile and put up for the night,—very tired, wet and cold. We sat by the fire until we were reasonably warm and dry then I slept in the car while my friend went to find some other place to spend the rest of the night. We decided that in the morning we'd have the prisoners help us clear the road as was customary in that section. We didn't rest too well. I had only one blanket. All the rest of my things we had left in my little new home, so when we did awake it was with aching and a stiff back. We drove back to the big tree. I left the men chopping and went ahead to see how the roads were farther on. Early in the morning. In a thick African forest . . . alone . . . yet not alone. The Lord was so preciously near just then. It seemed good to suffer a little for Him when He had suffered so much for me. Again "God is working out His purpose." How necessary that God permits trees to fall across our way so that we take time to commune, to meditate, and to wait upon Him. I walked about two miles and on my return saw a native hurrying to meet me. He had an anxious look on his face. He said, "This is a mystery forest. You must never walk in here alone. Many have disappeared in these parts." I wasn't afraid for Jesus was with me and those hours alone with Him that morning were blessed ones indeed. . . . We cut about thirteen trees and arrived at the State House after dinner.

About one week later we had occasion to visit one of the outstations where there was plenty of discouragement and trouble. Some of the old teachers had fallen into sin and the need for more teachers was urgent. Our hearts were heavy and yet in the midst of disheartening experiences such as these, it is marvelous how God works and how the way opened to contact other lonely and despairing people—white and black—in the humble houses they call HOME or in the shop among the workmen. We can't picture to you such sin, social and otherwise . . . such misery—NO hope, NO Christ, NO Peace. . . . They can't retire one night without fear of having someone place a curse upon them, but their hearts were receptive to singing and preaching. Pray much for such contacts as these that they may be directed by the Holy Spirit and that many souls may be saved for eternity.

The Catholic problem seems to be getting

more and more serious. I think that problem is second to none here in the Congo. Recently one of our best men was threatened his job if he did not become a Catholic. He LEFT the church. PRAY that the Lord will send more laborers into this part of His vineyard. Unless we put forth every effort "lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes" I'm afraid the Catholics will get so strong our losses will be great and many of our privileges may be lost indefinitely. We are not despairing. The future is as bright as HIS promises. Will you let "God work out His Purpose" in YOU and

YOURS, for the lost in Congo,

Archie D. Graber.

EDITORIALS

(*Continued from page* 4)

DEPARTURE DELAYED

We may plan and have reservations and all necessary arrangements taken care of for sailings, airway-travels, or just for our every day routines, when—just one thing can change the whole affair. This is what happened in the case of the sailing date of Miss Kornelia, Unrau, R.N. We accompanied her to New York; her baggage and trunks, ticket and all necessary papers had been arranged for but the "strike" on the docks delayed the sailing for over 4 weeks. She has been staying in the home of Miss Elizabeth Foth, a city mission worker, trying to "wait patiently" and to ponder still more deeply Rom. 8:28. Our prayers are with and for Miss Unrau as she leaves for the Congo, back to the work she loves so much and to which the Lord has called her. "God bless and keep you, Miss Unrau."

* * *

THE ROCKE'S TRIO

For quite some time the urgent request has gone out for more young men missionaries. Well, they are arriving! But in little "bundles," wrapped in pink and blue blankets, just the size and type for fond parents to cuddle. The home of Rev. and Mrs. Glenn Rocke has been graced and the hearts of two little "fellows" have been gladdened by the arrival of little brother David Glenn on October the 10th at the Charlesville Station. Congratulations to the family and a hearty welcome to you, David Glenn. May you grow up and develop into the type of a young man who some day will find it very difficult not to pray as did Isaiah of old, "Here am I, Lord, send me."

* * *

LADIES PLEASE!

We find it necessary to call attention to the change of address for the sending of our African linens, etc. Please remember to address them to our new shipping clerk, Mrs. John H. Miller, 17 Clinton Place, Normal, Illinois. Please do not enclose any writing in the packages.

THE CROSS

The only organization founded by the Holy Ghost began at the cross. We must stay with the cross. The scribes and elders and enemies of the cross of Christ said at Calvary, "If thou be the king of Israel, come down from the cross, and we will believe." Today they say, "Substitute and expand." The devil has a "beautiful religion." The same spirit which crucified Jesus and nailed him to the cross is that which has caused many to take heed to clamoring voices, and today they are but a laughing-stock.

In Matthew 16:24 Jesus laid down the mark: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." The world does not want a church or an individual with pierced hands and feet—no, it wants a beautiful polished religion, with no self-denial and no cross—it wants to live in ease, to spend its money for that which is not bread, and its labor for that which satisfieth not, while the people die and go to hell. If we do not carry our cross, we shall not receive a crown. —**The Church Herald.**

"Love, truth, beauty, communion with God are things money cannot buy."

IS IT WORTH WHILE?

Dear Friends—

It will soon be a year since I arrived in the Congo. I'm glad I'm here. I haven't been able to learn a great deal of what is before me because it is so vast. But I have learned that God has called me to a place that is very beautiful, and He has made me see a great and interesting work to be done among the people who live here.

The first six weeks I spent in studying the language. I was soon aware that if I was to have anything in common with these natives I was going to have to learn to speak their language. It sounded like music from the start but didn't make any sense. It is commencing to take on meaning but I'll be, without a doubt, struggling with prefixes, suffixes, and infixes for some time to come.

Since the first of August I have been substituting at the Presbyterian school for missionaries' children. Carolyn Schnell, Carol and Paul Toews, and Wilmer and Charles Sprunger are in school here. I have enjoyed the work here. The biggest blessing to me was to know that the majority of the children in this school plan to come back when their education is finished and follow the footsteps of their parents. The term will be ended December 9, and we shall return to C. I. M. in time to attend the field conference.

My experience is still limited so I can only tell you of some of my first impressions. I wondered much just what I would find here. I was curious about many things. I had expected to see some jungle animals on the trip inland. But I'm starting to think these are found only in the zoo, for I haven't even seen a hippo or a crocodile. I found the mosquitos do not swarm around you at night, but rather it is some sly creature that you don't even hear that inoculates you with malaria. It isn't nearly as warm as I thought it would be. The days are often quite warm but so far the nights have always been cool. I have actually been cold out here.

But most of all I have been curious to see what the effect of the Gospel has been on this land. The other day I came back to my room after a day at school. I was just weary enough to wonder if it was all worth while. I sat down to rest a bit before my Tshiluba study. When I became still enough to realize what was going on about me, I heard a school boy, a native, who was working in our back yard singing lustily, "When the Roll is Called up Yonder I'll be There." I thanked God that the gospel message had reached him. I had no doubt in my mind but what he and a good many of his Congo brothers and sisters would be there, and that some day we would meet around the great white throne.

At the same time I couldn't help overhearing what was going on in the next room. A young lady, the wife of the agricultural director of an English tobacco plantation not so far from here had come in the day before. She had had a heart attack (the doctor said too much quinine and too many cigarettes) and she was afraid to die. Fortunately she came to the place where she could get the right heart treatment. All possible medical aid was given her. The nurse had put her in her own bed here in our house. Now I heard her speaking with this lady. She was trying to answer the earnest inquiries about God. It was evident that the woman was hungry and longing for the truth. The boy out in the yard, quite unconscious of what was transpiring indoors had changed his tune to "Come every soul with sin oppressed there's mercy with the Lord."

The following evening she attended the weekly station prayer meeting. When opportunity was given for requests before the season of prayer she said, "I have accepted Jesus Christ in my heart. Will you pray for me?"

It meant going back to a husband and friends, none of whom were Christians. But she didn't hesitate to witness. The first thing she said to her husband when he arrived for her was, "For the first time in my life, I am not afraid to die."

Is it worth while? I was convinced as never before that where God's servants are faithful God's Holy Spirit uses them to bring souls, white or black, to Him. It pays. Please pray for us.

Sincerely,

Lodema Short

There is no difficulty too small for faith's exercise, no crisis too terrible for its triumph.

DAYS OF EXCITEMENT AND EXPECTANCY

Dear Fellow Workers,

Because you prayed—
God touched our weary bodies with His power,
And gave us strength for many a trying hour
In which we might have faltered had not you,
Our intercessors faithful been—and true.

Because you prayed—
God touched our eager fingers with His skill,
Enabling us to do His blessed will,
With scapel, suture, bandage; better still,
He healed the sick, the wounded, cured the ill.

Because you prayed—
God touched our lips with coal from altar fire,
Gave Spirit fulness, and did so inspire.
That when we spoke sin-blinded souls did see.
Sin-chains were broken, captives were made free.

Because you prayed—
The dwellers in the dark have found the Light,
The glad Good-News has banished heathen night,
The message of the cross so long delayed,
Has brought them life at last because you prayed.

These have been great days of excitement and expectancy everywhere throughout the C. I. M. on the field. Days of prayer and waiting upon God also.

In past months several trips were made by committee members to the proposed sites for the two new stations. We know His divine leading and blessing upon the chosen places. Even the "Mass brethren" (as some one called the group of opposite faith which follow the dictates of Rome) are questioning even little children, in our village what their white chiefs (as they call us) are planning to do?

Our hearts rejoiced to see the first 4 Christian students from the Bashilele tribe (in which one of our proposed sites is to be opened) finish the course of study offered in the Bible School program here at Charlesville (comparing equally in most respects with the full course of Bible School programs in the homeland).

One of these four students having finished his one year of pracitical work in the outstations among his own tribe after graduation, returned only yesterday to the same village as their permanent teacher. Our hearts rejoice as we share with you this trophy. We know you rejoice with us as workers together in this Congo field. We shall rejoice together again when these trophies are presented to Christ face to face "One moment in heaven will pay for it all," dear friends, the title of a song which is worth more than gold. Yesterday he came, en route, to our house and asked us to pray God's benediction upon him and the work he was looking forward to doing with and for his Master with joy. We did and, as we prayed together the dew of heaven fell upon us and when we arose from our knees we were speechless as we looked thru' tears of joy upon his shining ebony face transformed with love lights and a smile from above.

As we shook hands before leaving, our fellow missionary said, "Truly it pays to serve Jesus. Won't it be wonderful when we all come together on that day, bringing in these sheaves with rejoicing?"

God is **Good** and continually so!

The graduation days are here and nearly 100 are in the first degree graduation class. There are only 12 in the class from the Bible School but they have their faces, "set toward Jerusalem." Their class theme and text was "We are workers together with God." I Cor. 3:7-9. Their class songs were "I want my Life to Tell for Jesus," "Move Forward," "In the Harvest Field" and "Anywhere with Jesus." Their baccalaureate response by our Missionary in charge was II Timothy 2:1-13, Paul's exhortation to Timothy, his begotten in Christ.

Today we have just come from a large class of women which are divided into 3 groups. The first group are new Christians being nurtured on the milk of God's word. The second class are those who have been nourished upon His word for sometime and are the baptismal instruction class for next year. The third group are these who have been baptized during the past year and meet on the lawn each Thursday evening for Bible study. Many cannot yet read one word but by the new memory system, know the words

by sight after much drilling and teaching and long study, "His Word shall not return void."

Now they have gone with cans, jugs, buckets and gourds on their heads to the spring to get water for their evening meals. There is yet another group of women in the station Chapel. They are **Bible Women** who know how to read and have finished the Bible School in recent years who are responsible for carrying the Gospel to the out village women, every other week. This is the week when they themselves receive simple helps in teaching God's Word which they are to carry out to their assigned places next Thursday, and where they join in prayer for those to whom they are to carry the Gospel.

They need constant exhortation and guidance and as they are used of Him, their simple messages from God's Word filled with power of the Holy Spirit, from sympathetic hearts of love and on humble devotion to their fellowmen, God can win yet many more to Himself through them, before Christ comes. Work with them in prayer!

The state official and state school inspector and his wife and child were our guests for several days recently. There was a tension everywhere. (Even the flag refused to be raised properly as if its cables were intensified too.) Of course we all knew of his near arrival but when he did come unannounced it brought a tension. This reminded us of a prepardness and daily expectation of the coming of our King Jesus in the Rapture when we shall hear the trumpet sound—then see Him face to face. Oh, glorious day of days! The quietness and peace within our souls was restored almost immediately because of his friendly smile and remarks as we promenaded over the station with them immediately after tea.

They tried not to be demonstrative but one could catch the sparkle in their eyes as we answered their questions. We walked prayerfully and God answered before we had finished the interview with them. We know at least some of you are praying! Cease not! The examination of class, student and teacher was made. Helpful hints and suggestions offered and they were off after several days, for a like unannounced examination of our schools at the Nyanga station. We believe God did and is doing and will do **great** things for us. Jer. 33:3. We pray He may give us a real testimony burning deeper than words or preaching in their lives and grant favor to us through the state, to which of course we are foreigners. They enjoyed our simple meals and especially fresh vegetables with which God has richly blessed us, from our gardens at this particular time.

The new state program will bring drastic changes and longer hours and require more personnel but we know through it we shall be able to reach more souls with the Gospel message. Pray with us!

Now after all reports of students are registered we shall turn our attention to more village work and hours of re-translating, readapting heavier and weightier Bible subjects to conform with the minds of the grades to which these subjects have been ascribed. Only missionaries and native deacons are teaching in all the grades from third on up. Bible subjects. Oh, what an opportunity of reaching more souls with the Gospel message! Our school is very large, all ages and of 12 different tribes of natives.

We shall carry our coming yearly conference, which is to be held at the Mukedi station beginning Dec. 9, 1948, in prayer to God and to you in the next issue of the Messenger.

May God bless each of you as you "sow for you shall reap in due season if we and you faint not." May this be an unusual New Year for each of His laborers in the homeland and on the field, white to harvest.

I was only notified today that it was my month to write to our Messenger friends so I trust as I send this by air mail, it may find a place in your hearts and space in some issue of the messenger.

Our new C. I. M. Tshiluba Hymnal is ready for the first proof reading and will soon be on the press. We have enlarged it by adding French songs, (by request) and choruses, and children's songs and choir selections and women's songs making 500 songs in all. May God bless this edition to His glory and for more souls for His Kingdom, is my prayer.

May it encourage your souls to be good soldiers of Christ to the end. God bless you! Lovingly and prayerfully your co-workers.

Bessie, Roy and Jonathan.

AN INTERESTING DAY AT MUTENA STATION

Dear Co-labourers—

"For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto Salvation to every one that believeth." Rom. 1:16a.

We would like for you to turn your thoughts to Mutena Station and spend the day with us as we review the happenings of November twenty-eight, the day set aside for our first baptismal services at Mutena.

The day started not with a beautiful African sunrise as we so often are able to report but with a drizzling rain which started about the time we expected to ring the first bell for the early morning services. It lasted only a few hours. The sky was almost clear by twelve o'clock noon so it was decided that we would have the services early in the afternoon.

When the bells rang to announce the services a large group of Africans came to walk with us through the long, steep, shady lane of forest trees, vines and bushes to the place where the little water stream had been damed so as to form a small lake of water, ideal for the baptismal services. As we all stood there surrounded by the beauties of nature which God has created for us to enjoy, we also felt the consciousness of His presence. As we witnessed the baptismal candidates coming from the water it was with great joy and thankful hearts that we looked to our Lord and Saviour that again His word had been powerful unto the Salvation of souls. It is our prayer that each one of these may go forth in the strength of the Lord to be a living witness for their Lord.

After winding our way back up the steep lane, we all gathered in the chapel where those who were baptized were received into the church membership, several others who had fallen by the wayside and had confessed their guilt were also received back into the church. Parents who desired to dedicate their children to the Lord were asked to come forward and the children were publicly dedicated to the Lord.

At five o'clock the bells rang to announce the communion service. The Christians gathered in a quiet and worshipful attitude to partake of the Lord's Supper. The rich blessing of the Lord was showered upon us as we remembered the death of Christ and as we look forward to His soon coming.

Sincerely in Him,

Elmer, Esther Dick and Family

"ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER"

"How can I hear what you say when what you are keeps thundering in my ears?"

This old proverb was brought to my mind anew when the following conversation took place: "Why don't you read so and so's article?" "Because I know him. He is selfish and irritable at home. His wife has to try her utmost to please him, and goes without clothes and things she needs so that he can have what he wants."

Not many years ago there lived a farmer who always went to church and very religiously had family worship each morning, even when threshers and other hired men were present. One day one of these men went to his house to buy some syrup. As he was measuring it out, a thick piece of board made to fit the bottom of his measure fell out. No one had confidence in his religion after that.

In the same neighborhood lived another farmer, also a professor of religion, who took eggs to town to sell. There were times when he lacked some to supply his customers. At such times he went to his neighbors to secure the needed amount. No matter how late the hour when he returned from town, and no matter how stormy it was, he climbed the hill to his neighbor's house and paid the exact amount that he received for the eggs. When told that he should not make a special trip for it he would say, "Well, I might die before morning, or the house might burn and the money be lost. I want everything squared up before going to bed." He has been dead several years, but to this day his neighbors tell what a good, honest, kind-hearted man he was, and his influence lives on.

It is one thing to profess and another to possess. It is all right to tell others what to do but the thing which counts most is the everyday life. Kindness, unselfishness and thoughtfulness for members of one's own family, trying to brighten and cheer others, suited with the place where the Lord wants one, "in honor preferring one another," these are the things which inspire confidence in one's Christianity.—**Selected.**

MINUTE MEDITATIONS

Discontentment is a valuable asset to your life if you will use it to move on to better things.

* * *

Are you content with what you have, with what you are, or how you do things? God pity you if that is true.

* * *

You might be able to feel quite decent as you stood before the ten commandments, but not so in the presence of Christ, there's where all of us feel quite humble.

* * *

Our *creeds* and our *deeds* are all to often strangers to each other.

* * *

What do you think about when you aren't really thinking?

* * *

The moment you begin to practice your noblest thoughts and ideals, that moment you are growing stronger.

* * *

We must love men enough to understand them; we must love them more to forgive them.

* * *

You should be the first to approve and the last to condemn.

* * *

If we can get our motives right, our motions will be right.

* * *

If God were unwise enough to let us have all the things we really want, most of us would double our troubles.

* * *

The test of good manners is to be able to put up with bad ones, pleasantly.

* * *

Lessons learned without a great deal of study are easily forgotten.

* * *

He who excuses himself, accuses himself.

* * *

Wasting materials is bad enough but wasting time, is something that can never be recovered.

Modesty is more attractive than beauty. It is the beauty that goes beyond beauty.

* * *

A deluge of words is usually void of sense.

* * *

A job poorly done, had better never been begun.

* * *

Insults, like some sores, heal more quickly if let alone.

* * *

Discontent will make you forget your blessings.

* * *

How nearly do we do, as well as we know?

* * *

The person who thinks *carefully*, is not likely to act *carelessly*.

* * *

Most of us can "see better" when sorrow has caused tears to wash our eyes and soften our hearts.

* * *

We may so live, that even in solitude, we may have the companionship of beautiful thoughts.

* * *

Unkindness is as silly as it is sinful.

* * *

If a man does not feel humiliated when he has been too hasty, there isn't much of a man.

* * *

Every sin we commit carries its own whip in its hand.

* * *

What a lot of things we could do without, if our neighbors or friends didn't have them!

* * *

Do your little tasks in a fine spirit, and they too will become fine.

* * *

Dollar bills, when held too close to the eyes, shut out the whole world.

* * *

Anger squanders our mental energy and gives us nothing of value in return.

HAPPENINGS AT CHARLESVILLE

Report of happenings during September and October from Charlesville, Africa.

Dear Christian Friends:—

Greetings we send you from the land of sunshine and rain, in the name of our Lord and Master.

"I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth."—Psalm 34:1. Our theme is with the psalmist of the above verse, and we truly want to praise him for bringing us safely back again once more among our loved ones in Christ and home. We want to sing praises to him also for hearing and answering prayers so wonderfully in every way.

"O taste and see that the Lord is good." Psalm 34:8a. During the month of September we had a wonderful time in the Lord when a series of prayer and revival meetings were held over the period of about four weeks. The meetings were quite well attended with the deacons and missionary men taking charge of them in their turns. The closing meeting was on October 3rd when we observed World Wide Communion. During that time 125 came out for the first time and gave their hearts to the Lord. 85 backsliders came forward, and about 350 took communion on that Sunday. The Babes in Christ, and the ones that came back need your prayers very much that they may win continual victories for Jesus.

Mrs. Rocke and I had planned to go together for a month's stay at Bulape A. P. C. M., because we felt we needed a doctor's care during our confinement. But the Lord had other plans and little Russell Junior came ahead of time on September 21st here at Charlesville with Miss Friesen's kind assistance. The natives were all over joyed and thanked us very much for him over and over again. They were all so happy that at last we had a boy after four girls. Needless to say his little sisters are happy over his arrival and often plead to hold him. He is growing nicely and weighs 11 lbs. at the age of two months.

Mrs. Rocke made the trip to Bulape on September 22 the day after our event by herself with Glenn. She had a pleasant wait and visit there and had a bouncing boy David Glenn on October 10th. We were all glad to hear that everything turned out so good and that the Lord answered prayer wonderfully.

During the month of October (first part) an Educational committee was held at Nyanga to discuss the plans for the new school year according to Government regulations.

We want to thank you one and all for remembering us in your prayers while we were en route and up to the present time. We would enjoy so much in hearing from some of you from time to time. Remembering you all in our prayers, and looking forward to your letters we remain.

Yours in the service of our Saviour and King.

Helen Schnell and Family.

PRECIOUS BOOK

Oh, how precious is the Bible
Telling of the Father's love,
Telling of the only Saviour
And of heaven bright above.
Help us, Lord, aright to prize it,
And its lessons safe to hold.
For it opens wide Thy treasures
As a key of purest gold.

Oh, how wondrous is the Bible
With its story sweet and true!
Jesus' life on earth so holy
And His death for me and you.
And the message sung by angels
Sets our hearts from darkness free,
Opens to us light and blessing
Like a precious golden key.

Oh, how glorious is the Bible
Gift of God unto His own;
He hath given to us freely
Makes the priceless treasure known.
Send the Bible and its story
Over mountains, plain and sea,
Till the message of salvation
Makes the waiting nations free.

It may be sung to the tune "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

More people would inherit eternal life if they were not so occupied with other inheritances in which they are more interested. **—Selected.**

WELCOME FROM NATIVES AND WORKERS

Dear Co-laborers in the Homeland,

Greetings from the land of Congo.

God is good and faithful to bring me again to this African field. Never before did I see the need so great—the workers so few. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest." Mt. 9:38.

The welcome I received from both the missionaries and natives made me very happy. When I arrived at Charlesville shortly before noon over 700 children and teachers were waiting to greet me.

To be sure things are different than they've been before—perhaps even more so than I realized they would be—and often some familiar spot that has a very precious experience associated with it, or maybe a favorite hymn—or the many, many questions that only the natives can ask—cause heartaches supreme, yet, His grace is sufficient and He has proved Himself to be all and MORE than He promised.

The assistant parstor came to the Guest House, where I am still living from my suitcases, and related in detail the Memorial Services the Christians—both native and American, held in what used to be our Congo home. At that time the house was vacant, —on the Sunday following the Home-going of my dear wife. After the morning services the women met on the porch. They sang two songs, then they prayed. They sang again and prayed again. From noon until evening they sang, they prayed, they wept. Her life lives on in the hearts of these people whom she loved so dearly. How we long to see some response to the call for laborers. Isn't there someone—somewhere—willing to help fill in the gaps? "Come over into CONGO and help us."

There is a great drifting away among our Christians; the Bible School has taken a drop, partly because of a change in the curriculum and partly because of the love of money. I am sure you will continue to be much in prayer for the work here.

You may be interested to know that all of my things arrived, and that with very little breakage. A few glass jars leaked a bit and made things messy but that wasn't even too bad. The Lord has been most gracious, and we believe many of the good things that have come my way are direct answers to the prayers you've offered for me. Thank you again.

The shingle cutting machine is working well and seems to have been a definite answer to prayer. When I arrived at Charlesville there were 22 roofs leaking badly and causing the missionaries themselves no little concern. The saw would work better if we had a better motor. I had hoped to get one from the Diamond Company when I arrived here but they felt they could not spare one so we run the saw with the rear wheel of our 1928 Ford and it does very well. We hope to get these roofs all repaired before too long.

So far the new station site has not been definitely decided upon but we believe God's hand is in it all and in His own good time He will bring it to pass. Thank you again for your prayers and gifts of love. Will you continue to often "whisper a prayer" for the salvation of these precious souls in Congo?

Faithfully yours and His,
Archie Graber.

Most sweet things have within them the nature to become sour. Watch it with caution!

Many a child has been punished for the crime of being like their parents.

GOD KNOWS YOUR HEART

It does not matter very much
What other people say,
It's what you are that really counts,
And how you live each day.

For others sometimes give to you
More praise than is your due;
Your motives and your secret thoughts
Are hidden from their view.

And then again they're very apt
To criticize and blame;
And even when you're in the right,
Bring slander on your name.

So never mind what others say
To praise you or condemn;
'Tis only God who knows your heart
Be sure you're right with Him.

—Selected.

THE MASTER WILL VISIT OUR TOWN TODAY

They said, "The Master is coming,
To honor the town today,
And none can tell at what house or home,
The Master will choose to stay."
Then I thought, while my heart beat wildly,
What if He should come to mine?
How would I strive to entertain,
And honor the Guest divine!

And straight I turned to toiling,
To make my home more neat;
I swept, and polished and garnished,
And decked it with blossoms sweet.
I was troubled for fear the Master
Might come ere my task was done,
And I hastened and worked the faster,
And watched the hurrying sun.

But right in the midst of my duties,
A woman came to my door;
She had come to tell me her sorrows,
And my comfort and aid to implore.
And I said, "I cannot listen,
Nor help you any today;
I have greater things to attend to,"
And the pleader hurried away.

But soon there came another,
A cripple, thin, pale and gray;
And said, "O let me stop and rest
Awhile in your home, I pray;
I have traveled far since morning,
I am hungry and faint and weak,
My heart is full of misery,
And comfort and help I seek."

And I said, "I am grieved and sorry,
But I cannot keep you today;
I look for a great and noble Guest,"
And the cripple went away.
And the day wore onward swiftly,
And my task was nearly done,
And a prayer was ever in my heart
That the Master to me might come.

And I thought I would spring to meet Him,
And treat Him with utmost care,
When a little child stood by me,
With a face so sweet and fair.
Sweet, but with marks of tear drops,
And his clothes were tattered and old,
A finger was bruised and bleeding,
And his little bare feet were cold.

And I said, "I am sorry for you;
You are sorely in need of care,
But I cannot stop to give it,
You must hasten other where."
And at the words a shadow
Swept over his blue-veined brow;
"Some one will feed and clothe you, dear,
But I am too busy now."

At last the day was ended,
And my toil was over and done,
My house was swept and garnished,
And I watched in the dusk alone;
Watched, but no footfall sounded;
No one paused at my gate;
No one entered my cottage door;
I could only pray and wait.

I waited till night had deepened,
And the Master had not come;
"He has entered some other door," I cried,
"And gladdened some other home!"
My labor had been for nothing,
And I bowed my head and wept;
My heart was sore with longing,
Yet spite of it all, I slept.

Then the Master stood before me,
And His face was grave and fair;
"Three times today I came to your door,
And craved your pity and care;
Three times you sent me onward,
Unhelped and uncomforted;
And the blessing you might have had was lost,
And your chance to serve has fled."

"O Lord, dear Lord, forgive me;
How could I know it was Thee";
My very soul was shamed and bowed
In the depths of humility.
And He said, "Thy sin is pardoned,
But the blessing is lost to thee,
For failing to comfort the least of Mine,
Ye have failed to comfort Me."

It's what your learn, after you know it all, that counts.

YOUR AFRICA

Byron S. Lamson

A missionary letter from Southern Rhodesia, outlining plans for the occupation of a large unevangelized area, involving personal sacrifice, also contained these lines:

"It is great to be out where the fight is strong
To be where the heaviest troops belong,
And to fight there for man and God.

"It seams the face and dries the brain;
It strains the arm till one's friend is pain,
In the fight for man and God.

"But it's great to be out where the fight is strong,
To be where the heaviest troops belong,
And to fight for man and God."

I believe firmly in the need for a definite *call*—the sort of *call* God gives to those He appoints to full-time service in this country. We sing that challenging missionary hymn of our own Vivian A. Dake,

"In heathen lands they watch and wait,
And sigh for help which comes so late;
And grope in sin and nature's night,
Forever vainly seeking light,"

and somehow we gain the impression that a harvest is waiting, that multitudes are clamoring for baptism and church membership. I hope to leave the impression with you that there are serious obstacles in the path of the African missionary. This is no Sunday school picnic. There is a call now for a clear head, the trained hand, the full heart, the surrendered will.

Problems—New Wine—Old Bottles

In Africa we have the unique situation in which members of a highly complex and advanced civilization, which is itself the fruit of a centuries-long struggle, suddenly confront a society comparatively primitive. There is no other so vast an area on this planet so retarded as is Africa. Traveling in Africa today, one has the feeling of "Ancient History." Most of the sermons I heard preached by Africans were based on some story from the Book of Genesis. They seem to understand and appreciate this part of the Bible most. The order of society in rural Africa today must be several thousand years behind Western cultural standards. I recall now two sermons on "Rebecca" and one on "The Flood." Flocks and herds, fighting for land, seeking wives, polygamy, simple agriculture, scarcity features of the primitive life described in the Book of Genesis, and understood in Africa today.

India and China have their centuries-old philosophies and religions, giving them some background for the appraisal of Christianity. But in Africa, the missionary comes like a visitor from Mars. At first the African is bewildered. I tasted something of this "shock" in Southern Rhodesia. Our missionaries were opening the new station in an area where apparently the gospel had never been preached. I felt so helpless to "bridge over" the distance. Their Chief had seen our schools, our churches, and the changed lives of the Christian converts. He had walked seventy-five miles to ask for schools and missionaries. These people could not sing the Christian songs. Their faces were filled with what seemed to be astonishment and perplexity. It was the native evangelist who understood. He jumped up to exhort, and with a beautiful smile, and some tears, he retold one of my stories. He worked it over and over until they understood.

We will have a mission station here. There will be an automobile, a radio, a wind-charger, electric lights, a dispensary with scientific diagnosis of disease, medicines that really cure, and a school where boys and girls learn to read their own language. Missionaries will be there, talking of events around the world. Life will begin to whirl. Little worlds will stretch. Old ideas will be discarded.

The African, in some places, has moved centuries in three generations. Much of the old heathenism is passing away. But the changes do not come in all places, nor with the same tempo. The industrialized sections are as foreign to the little-changed life of the interior African village, on the one hand, as they are to European civilization on the other. So African life itself is breaking apart. Great distances separate the educated,

Westernized African from his untutored brother of the village. It is in this situation that the missionary will work.

Colonial Policies

Portugal, a bulletin of political, economic and cultural information contains in its January 31, 1946, edition the "Chief of State's New Year Message to Portuguese all over the World." One is impressed with the idealism expressed in these sentences:

"Above all, Peace, like a delicate plant, has not yet found the moral climate suitable for its germination; war has left its mark on the spirit of the peoples; and the bitterness, suspicion and resentment caused by suffering and privations are not yet wiped out.

"Fraternal co-operation, understanding, and friendship between all peoples are essentials for the future prosperity and happiness of the world, and the difficulties can be overcome only by disciplined work on the part of us all.

"May the New Year bring hope and happiness to every nation, and real peace to the world."

Since the Portuguese were Africa's first discoverers and colonizers, one hopes that the Chief of State's ideals may speedily be translated into enlightened policies that will lead all the colonial governments having a stake in Africa to a genuinely Christian view of the relation they sustain, and their responsibility toward primitive peoples.

Colonial policies in Africa, as in North and South America, have not always been above suspect. Generally speaking, we have the superior power invading an uncivilized country for some kind of economic advantage. Land is seized, labor is regimented, sometimes forced, and money profits accumulated for the home government.

Christian statesmen and missionary leaders have been asking their consciences some searching questions on these matters.

a. Can we justify our dealings with Africa at the bar of God?

b. Can ye claim the land which no tribe claims?

c. Can we seize land in fertile, healthful areas without injury to the natives?

d. How did Europeans secure land in Africa?

e. If Africans cannot own land, how can Europeans?

f. Does conquest give ownership of land?

g. Do chiefs have power to confer lands?

h. Do European agreements to spheres of influence in Africa give any government the right to call the land its own?

i. Do European governments decide what lands the native may have?

j. What title do the natives have? Will it hold in court?

k. If the native holds the land, does the government protect him from his own folly of mortgaging and selling?

l. When the government alienates land, are the natives given other land of equal value?

m. Is there adequate compensation? Does he pay rent? Are the natives serfs?

The Africa missionary must understand this complex situation, realizing that he is an uninvited guest of a colonial government. He will find many government officials honestly working for the betterment of native life, and he will co-operate on that level.

Helping People Help Themselves

Missionary activity in Africa must recognize certain economic problems. The industrialization of Africa is today creating a most difficult situation. Where the male members of the tribe leave the village for extended periods, to work in distant factories and mines, village life suffers. An undue burden is thrown on the women and children. Less land is cultivated at the village, thus decreasing the food supply. There is a lower birth rate, a weakening of tribal influence and moral restraints.

Here again we should ask certain questions bearing upon the labor situation.

a. Are the natives free to work on the land or work for European wages?

b. Is government labor on roads, bridges, or railroads compulsory?

c. Are chiefs forced to recruit labor?

d. Are taxes a method of compelling natives to work for foreigners?

e. May natives pay their tax with cash rather than with labor?

f. Who are called for forced labor? Men? Women? Children?

g. Is forced labor paid? At what rate?

h. What recruiting methods are used? (I saw a soldier with drawn gun bringing two men to the work camp.)

i. Are labor contracts checked by the government?

j. How far does the native travel to his work? How long does he stay? What are the living conditions? Food? Wages?

k. Does the employer have the right to inflict corporal punishment?

l. What is the effect of the absentee worker on the life of the village? On the family remaining in the village?

m. What proportion return to the village?

It is to be noted that the more enlightened employers are adopting longrange programs designed to protect and improve the native. I have visited some excellent compounds at the mine location. There are many cases of excellent co-operation with the mission-sponsored school where the men learn to read the Bible, the Hymnbook, the Catechism, and other Christian literature. Such foresight on the part of big business will pay material dividends. If, through greed for present profits, the African laboring man is killed off, who will work the mines and factories in the future?

The missionary must be clear in his ethical insights. He will feel that forced labor should be discontinued, except in the case of extreme national emergency such as epidemics, floods, and famines; or a reasonable amount of communal labor as prescribed by native law and custom.

The missionaries desire the development of African resources for the world, and for Africa. The villages must be strong, industrious, and economically independent, living on a Christian basis. This requires the discipline of *hard work*. Africans must learn the gospel of hard work. The rewards for labor must be sufficient to stimulate productiveness. The native should be free to decide whether he will work on the land of his tribe, or in the mines or factories for European wages.

The Chief of the Department of Labor and Native affairs for the Belgian Congo addressed the Leopoldville Conference in July, 1946. He told us that his government was attempting to check the movement from the villages to the industrial areas by making life in the villages more attractive. This called for the introduction of better tools, increased pay, less compulsory work. He called attention to native ignorance regarding the cultivation and value of certain crops. The village is enriched by the production of these crops. His government resorted to compulsory labor in agriculture to secure the production of these crops which raised the economic level of the village.

All agree that the African needs to learn thrift and the blessing of hard work. The modern missionary will be alive to these problems, co-operating with governments that sincerely work for the improvement of the life of the natives.

In concluding his address, the Chief of Native Affairs asked for the help of the missionaries in explaining to the people the government's plan for economic betterment. The mission schools must train natives in useful skills. "Above all," said the Commissioner, "you can help the African to be a better man, a useful citizen."

So it turns out that in Africa, as in America, our problems are actually open doors, opportunities, occasions, to relate and demonstrate the power of the Christian gospel that changes individual men and transforms nations.—*The Missionary Tidings.*

MORE TRUTH THAN POETRY

When a garage man makes a mistake, he adds it on your bill.

When a preacher makes a mistake, nobody knows the difference.

When a lawyer makes a mistake, it was just what he wanted, because he has a chance to try the case all over again.

When a judge makes a mistake it becomes the law of the land.

When a doctor makes a mistake, he buries it.

But when the editor makes a mistake—the whole world knows it!—**Reading Railroad Magazine.**

Are you sometimes alone with yourself and God?

MUTENA-GRAMS

By Lois Slagle, R.N.

"In Prison and Ye Visited Me"

The following translated letter is one which came to us a few weeks ago. It speaks for itself of the quiet faithful witness of one of our deacons who has been in the Lord's work for a great number of years. His chief interest and concern is in personal work. And in times of trouble or distress, he is present to comfort and to help his own people.

Tshikapa
le 8 septembre, 1948

Our Teachers at Mutena,

Greetings to you all. Today we have great joy to write you this letter. We were amazed to see Deacon Kalafanda Zechariah in our prison here in the territory of Tshikapa. All the teachers which are near us here are afraid to come to comfort us with God's Word; but he is an owner of courage and determination for the Word of God in him. His teaching is going forward. He has taught us that Jesus has mercy to those who are in prison (Matt. 25:34-46).

Another affair, Sergeant Paul was very sick, he entered his house and prayed to God. Now he is well and able to direct the other soldiers.

I am sending you the greetings of all in the prison. Do not forget us in your prayers.

Sergeant Musambi Paul and Bernand Mubelai (a prisoner).

Tragedy

Tragedy struck near us on the night of Oct. 12. Just a few kilometers from us lives a diamond prospector. Each day he goes with a group of African men to follow the river and its little tributaries in exploration for diamonds. Recently he had been working across the Lubembe River, which is a very rapid stream. This necessitated his crossing the river on his way to work and on his return. A crude ferry had been constructed out of two native canoes fastened together, with a platform built of planks on top the canoes—on which the men stood. As they were returning from work on this particular evening the catastrophe occurred. The prospector and one group of men had already safely made the crossing. However, on the second return trip with 30 men on board, the ferry capsized in mid-stream. Nineteen of the men were able to hang on to the planks of the ferry until they were rescued, but eleven men perished.

According to the diamond mine company's rules, this tragedy had to be reported to Tshikapa before seven o'clock the next morning. Since the prospector had no car, he asked Mr. Neufeld to relay the message to another white man some kilometers from here. He in turn would take the message on to Tshikapa. The word reached the company's office before the deadline, and that day the officials came to investigate the accident. Each widow or the parents of the victim if he had no wife, received money for the expenses involved in the mourning. Later each one will be taken to Tshikapa where each will receive a substantial compensation from the company.

It was interesting to listen to the different reactions to the tragedy among the Africans. Little concern or pity was evidenced for the men who had lost their lives. When we inquired as to their unconcern for those who perished, they replied that since they were dead forever, there was no reason to waste pity on them. Another expressed concern for all the clothes which were lost on the bodies of the drowned men.

Just two weeks previous to the tragedy, Sunday services had been begun in this camp by Bible School students. We trust that some may have received Christ into their hearts before they met with their tragic death.

The Uncle of Smallpox

The uncle of smallpox has been paying us a visit. He came at the beginning of this school semester and at the present, he seems to have no intentions of terminating his stay with us. A few of the school boys came back from their vacation with a breaking out which they called smallpox. Sporadically one after another came down with the malady. An examination revealed, however, that the disease was not true smallpox, for the patients for the most part were ambulatory.

After questioning our medical helpers, they volunteered the information that the disease was not true smallpox, but was what they called the "uncle of smallpox." In other words, the uncle of smallpox turned out to be what we commonly recognize as chickenpox.

A rather serious accident involved one of our school boys this month. He was injured in the attempt to tie a goat to the bed post. In Congo, since there are no barns or sheds for domestic animals, they must frequently share the house with their owner. On this particular evening, the school boy was putting the goat in the house. As he was attempting to tie it, the animal reared its head and one of the horns entered the cornea of his eye. When he was brought to the dispensary, blood had already so filled the pupil of his eye that it was impossible to tell the color of the iris or the pupil. It was considered necessary to take him to the hospital at Tshikapa, where they were equipped to give him the necessary treatment to save the sight in the injured eye. We are thankful that his sight has been spared but at this writing, he is still receiving treatment at the hospital.

The Queen of the Basket

This was the name given to the 43 ounces of humanity, squirming about in the basket. The women who help us in the obstetrical department dubbed the little premature, the queen of the basket; for she had everyone at her command in an attempt to aid her in her determined struggle to live. This was the seventh time that this mother had given birth to a premature infant; but the previous six had not lived. Since this was the first time that she had sought our aid in the time of her confinement, we did all that we could to keep the little one alive. With no electrically heated incubator to maintain an even temperature, we were forced to resort to hot water bottles. This necessitated a frequent changing of the water night and day in order to keep the little one warm. Feedings with a medicine dropper were necessarily at short intervals for she was able to consume so little milk at one time. Now at the time of this writing she weighs over six pounds. Though her demands on our time are not so great, she is still called the queen of the basket.

An Abundant Entrance

For approximately 35 years, Ngala Mata (Mata is the Tshiluba name for Martha) faithfully followed her Lord and Master. Her Christian life was without reproach before others. To the question, "Who is a real Christian?" the reply always came back, "Ngala Mata." In April of this year, she went home. She had long been looking forward to the day when she would see Jesus face to face. Those who witnessed her death told us of the radiance of her face as she told the Lord she would soon be with Him. Truly she was a trophy of God's grace in this dark land. She was definite proof that the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ can make these black diamonds new creatures in Christ.

The Long, Long, Road a Winding

Some of us on our station had not visited the dentist for over four years. In this time dental caries had wrought its havoc. Since our neighboring mission is without a dentist at the present time—our only other alternative in this vicinity was a Portuguese dentist. However, we decided in the best of interest of all concerned to make the trip to Dr. Laban Smith of the Unevangelized Tribes Mission at Kikwit. This journey took us over 300 miles of all kind of terrane. Wide, far reaching plains, long, steep ascenting hill and deep grass carpeted valleys were traversed en route. How thankful we were for the new car in which to make the long journey over these Congo roads. Instead of jumping out of the car in the inclement weather to put the canvas over the top of the old Ford in order to provide us with a minimum of protection from the downpour, we had but to roll up the windows and lean back against the comfortable seats and enjoy the splash of the raindrops against the window glass. The continual jumping and jolting so common to us in traveling was at a minimum. We were almost convinced that the roads were in better repair but we knew that the comparative comfortableness of our trip was not due to repaired roads but to the new car. We do thank each one of you readers who had a part in anyway in securing the car for us. Certainly the Lord will bless you for your gift and interest.

(*Continued on page* 22)

"SOME REFLECTIONS of Out-Bound, First Term Missionaries"

Those last weeks were rushed weeks; weeks of packing, invoicing, immunization shots, visas, last minute correspondence, business arrangements, blanks to fill, etc. Yet, in spite of the hustle and whirl of activity, there was a constant realization throughout that they were days of "lasts"—last times, last things, last visits, last views, last words—

There was the last visit to this church, and then that one. There was the last time the immediate family was together; the last visits with good friends; the last box shut and locked and sent on its way. There were the last views of a great "Mid-West" countryside hastening to a rich harvest. There was the farewell, the commissioning; the heart felt and fervent prayers. There was the last devotional period with the family, the last "good bye," the last view of the "home place"—

There was the last crossing of the home state line; the last "American Lunch." (Hamburger and milk shake!) There was the last day in the States, the last formality at the Travel Bureau, the last exchange of letters. There were the last hours with American friends, the last minutes on U. S. soil, the last hand shakes, the last shouted greetings, the last waved kerchiefs.

There were the last views of a slowly receeding harbor; skyline and home land.

And yet, as much as these were days of "lasts," even more so were they days of "firsts"! First times, first greetings, first views, first impressions, first experiences . . . There was the first hour at sea; the first awareness of ocean swell; the first hour of "squeamish uncertainty"! There was that first time when nothing could be seen in any direction but endless reaches of blue water. There was the beginning of a growing realization of the overpowering expanse and majesty of God's creation, and by contrast, the infinitesimal significance, ability and worth of man.

There was the first life boat drill, the first view of an ocean sun set, the first sight of a flashing school of fish, the first view of a white capped ocean under a full moon.

There were those first days which supplied ample time and opportunity for reflection and thought; time for a bit of retrospect—time for reliving bits of the past hurried weeks. There was time for some thoughts of the future, and above all, time for devotions and prayer. For the first time we began to experience the fulfilment of a certain group of God's promises. There were the verses which read; "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass." We had long since made the committal here requested, and truly one of the great desires of our hearts was now being realized.

Also for the first time, a portion of the passage in Matt. 28:19-20 passed from the category of "future possibility" to that of "present actuality." We had started to meet the requirement set forth in His command "Go"—and the reality of His presence with us could not be mistaken.

Then, there was the first glimpse of land followed by the first of many views of foreign soil. There was the first glimpse of a lone light house built on a formation of rock jutting from the sea. There was the first glimpse of British cliffs and of a little French fishing fleet.

There was the first hour in a new land; the first exposure to a bewildering barrage of a strange tongue and our first feeble, unavailing efforts to respond in kind. There were the first exposures to different ways of thinking, living, dressing, eating and acting. There were the first experiences of being viewed, observed, regarded and discussed as "the foreigners" we truly were.

There was the first worship service we attended which was conducted in another tongue; the hearing of a pastor's prayer which—though not completely understood grammatically—none the less spoke the unmistakable language of the soul. There was the first devotional period with a family of another nationality; the first genuine realization that family ties, problems, concerns, fears and sorrows are the same around the world.

And so on and on—but through all these experiences, and above them all there runs the joyous consciousness that we are in His place for our lives; that His hand of guidance is upon our lives; that His protecting presence surrounds our lives and that His perfect will continues to point our lives to-

ward that nook in His vineyard where He would have us serve Him. Though we feel we have given up little to follow Him, we do certainly feel that we are receiving the "hundred fold" He has promised in Matt. 19:29. Moreover, the promise and prospect of "everlasting life" serves not only to undergird our courage and faith, but also bids us quicken our efforts as we prepare to go with "that News" to those who know it not.

ASK YOURSELF

Questionnaire for the Christian worker

Did you ever break yourself of a bad habit?

Can you exercise self-control when things go wrong?

Are you cheerful and free from grouchy spells?

Do you think for yourself?

Do you keep your head in an emergency?

Do you remain calm under criticism?

Do your mates respect you and co-operate with you?

Can you maintain discipline without using authority?

Can you handle a group of dissatisfied persons successfully?

Are you a successful peacemaker?

Are you patient in dealing with nervous and hard-to-please people?

Can you get people to do things without irritating them?

Can you stand being opposed without saying things you later regret?

Are the delicate situations ever turned over to you to handle?

Do you make and keep friends easily?

Do you catch yourself quarreling about petty things?

Do you adjust yourself to strangers easily?

Are you free from embarrassment before superiors?

Are subordinates at ease in your presence?

Can you express your ideas without appearing overbearing and narrow-minded?

Are you interested in folks?

Have you tact?

Have you a reasonable amount of self-confidence?

Have you confidence in your cause?

Have you the co-operative and not the competitive spirit?

Have you the power of the single motive?

—H. H. Horne.

PRAYER DOES WORK

By Rev. W. A. Ogden

From Brethren Missionary Herald

The subject of prayer is one that we hear a great deal about. In fact, it is easier to talk **about** prayer than it is to pray, and I fear that too many of us are taking the easier way. I do not suppose that I can say anything new on this theme, but a thing does not need to be new to have value. It is the same old sun that comes up every morning, but it is always welcome. I believe we can get some practical results from this theme if you will go along with me as we think it through again.

Our Lord sometimes used situations and events about Him as a starting point from which to teach some vital truth. At other times He introduced the theme He wanted to present and created His own background or atmosphere for its setting. Such a case is found in Luke 18:1-8. His theme is first stated, "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint." After this He relates a parable about a poor widow who, as we would put it, camped on the doorstep of the local magistrate until he heard her plea and granted her protection from her adversary. His application is fine indeed. If the unjust judge can be moved by the plea of this poor widow, "shall not God (the just One) avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him?"

In this story the Lord would teach us that each one of us will face problems, temptations, and situations we cannot meet and conquer alone. Therefore, "men ought always to pray." Prayer is not limited to the pious, to the preacher, or to the faithful few in the prayer meeting. It is open to all who "labour and are heavy laden." James, in his epistle, charged the poverty of the people to their failure to pray, "Ye have not, because ye ask not." "But I have asked," you say, "and God has not answered my prayer." Is there an answer in the Word of God to this charge—an answer that satisfies every phase of the question? Of course this becomes involved and cannot be covered in the scope of this page. However, let us take the personal testimony of one man and say that if prayer worked for him we can expect it to work for us under similar circumstances.

Our story is in the 109th Psalm and the key phrase is in verse 4, "But I give myself

unto prayer." Like the woman in the parable of Luke 18, David had an adversary that was cruel and unyielding. Against him he cried out to God, "Hold not thy peace, O God of my praise; For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me: they have spoken against me with a lying tongue. They have compassed me about also with words of hatred; and fought against me without a cause. For my love they are my adversaries." Can we expect God to turn aside from directing the course of the universe to help a mere man in such a time as this? The answer is, He did, for David comes to the end of his prayer with triumphant faith, "I will greatly praise the Lord with my mouth; yea I will praise him among the multitude. For he shall stand at the right hand of the poor, to save him from those that condemn his soul."

Prayer that gets an answer involves the surrender of self. This is what David did when he "gave himself unto prayer." He not only prayed, but he gave himself in surrender to God in prayer. A parallel may be seen in Daniel, who "set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth and ashes: And I prayed unto the Lord my God . . ." With these men prayer was serious business. It involved intense physical, mental, and spiritual exercise. Our attitude may be that "just a little talk with Jesus makes it right," but David **gave himself** unto prayer. Daniel put on the symbols of humiliation and set his face unto the Lord God to see by prayer and supplication.

This involves more than time. It involves more than the consciousness of a great need. To "whisper a prayer in the morning" is better than going out without seeking God and His favor, but if you are living for God and are out where Satan deems you worthy of his attention you will find that there must be something more given to prayer than your spare time and your shallow thoughts. Luther, to whom Satan was a living and real adversary, found it necessary to spend at least three hours a day in prayer. We lament the apostasy that is sweeping over our land, the coldness and deadness of our churches, the powerlessness of our own lives, and are content to go on with our "little talks" and "whispered prayers," hoping that God will answer this kind of praying as He did the wrestling of Jacob, the faith and faithfulness of Elijah, the broken and contrite heart of David or the sackcloth and ashes of Daniel.

David Brainard gave himself to long agonizing hours of prayer as did Robert Murray McCheyne, and all other men who have left the hallowed Presence to live triumphantly over the adversary and bear a faithful and fruitful testimony to Christ and His Gospel.

The statesmen of our world today are making no secret of the fact that we are living in perilous days. They recognize a crisis that may not only bring war, but such a war as itself will bring "the end of the world." Brethren, the time is short. If we are going to do anything for God and for the winning of men to Christ we should do it now. And we will have to do it on our faces before God, not sparing self, nor consulting our own wisdom, feelings, or wills. The revival we need is a revival in which we give ourselves unto prayer.

MUTENA-GRAMS

(*Continued from page* 19)

Filling the Gap

Approximately six months after Lodema Short had arrived at Mutena, it became necessary for her to once more reassemble her personal belongings and repack them. In compliance with a request which came from our neighboring mission for help on the teaching staff of the Central School for missionaries' children at Lubondai, Lodema was asked to go to fill in the gap until other help could be obtained from the States. We were sorry that the situation arose which necessitated her leaving the work which she had just begun here. We will be happy when her semester's work there is finished so that she will be able to return to work with us again on this station.

Are you adapted to the group you seek to lead?

Have you a steady will?

Do you wear the leader's white flower of the sincere life?

FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts for months of October and November, 1948. From Central, E. M. C., E. M. B., and General Mennonite Conferences:

CENTRAL—	
Missionary allowances	$993.09
Evangelistic	104.00
Educational	78.60
Medical	47.80
General	1555.27
C. I. M. History	8.75
Total Central	$2787.51
E. M. C.—	
Missionary allowances	$1600.00
Evangelistic	159.54
General	2208.33
SPECIAL—	
Missionary Retirement Fund	60.00
Personal for Fanny Schmallenberger	15.00
Personal for A. D. Graber	10.00
Personal for Rev. and Mrs. James E. Bertsche	87.75
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC—	
Missionary allowances and general	800.00
SPECIAL—	
Personal for Miss Lucille D. Rupp	10.00
Total E. M. C.	$4950.62
E. M. B.—	
Missionary allowances	$497.40
Operating Budget	232.62
Medical	30.00
Insurance premium	105.50
Promotional	8.00
SPECIAL—	
Personal for Miss Agnes Lutke	14.00
Total E. M. B.	$887.52
GENERAL—	
Missionary allowances	$1613.15
Evangelistic	94.80
Operating Budget	984.99
Insurance Premium	253.98
Promotional	1.00
C. I. M. History	1.25
SPECIAL—	
Personal for Rev. H. A. Toews family	75.00
Personal for Miss Anna H. Quiring	34.31
Personal for Rev. E. J. Dick and family	32.59
Personal for Miss Selma Unruh	25.00
Total General	$3116.07

Other than Central, E. M. C., E. M. B., and General Mennonite Conferences—

Missionary allowances	$275.00
Evangelistic	31.00
Traveling expenses	48.02
Passage	413.34
Promotional	56.00
Stationary and Printing	4 50
SPECIAL—	
To Miss Kornelia Unrau	1484.56
Auto for Doctor Schwartz	47.06
Auto for Mutena Station	62.06
Personal for Miss Lois Slagle	10.00
Panel truck for Charlesville	49.07
Personal for Miss Aganetha Friesen	10.00
Total other than, etc.	$2490.61
Total Receipts	$14,232.33

IF

"If I can leave behind me here and there,
A friend or two who say when I am gone,
That I had helped to make their pathway fair—
Had brought them smiles, when they were bowed with care,
The riches of this world I'll carry on.

"If only three or four shall pause to say,
When I have passed beyond this earthly sphere,
That I brought gladness to them on a day
When bitterness was theirs; I'll take away
More riches than a millionaire leaves here."

Deliverance may tarry, but it will come. Deliverance from the trial is not the chief thing. The chief thing is deliverance from the sin of unbelief and mistrust, while the trial, perhaps, lasts long. God's delays ripen, and enlarge, and sweeten the blessings which He stores up for us in time of trial. He "considers our trouble. He knows our soul in adversity." "Though He cause grief, yet will He have compassion according to the multitude of His mercies." "He doth not grieve willingly."—**Henry Groves.**

They who tell all they know, will eventually, tell more than they know.

God helps men by helping them to help themselves.

The mission of the Church is Missions.

What to Pray for Your Missionaries

"LIFT UP YOUR EYES AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST."
—John 4:35.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."
—Matt. 28:19.

1. **THEIR SPIRITUAL LIFE:**
   - For Spiritual Growth.
   - They are constantly giving out.
   - Their prayer life.
   - They too are human and sometimes need reviving.
2. **WISDOM:**
   - What to do.
   - When to do it.
   - What not to do.
   - Where to go. The needs are so great in so many directions.
3. **MATERIAL NEEDS:**
   - Finances.
   - Food.
   - Means of travel.
   - Literature. A very necessary asset in work among the heathen.
   - Suitable place to live.
4. **STUDY** (time and inclination):
   - The language.
   - Lessons and messages.
5. **CONTACTS:**
   - With the Christians.
   - With the unsaved.
   - With the other missionaries.
   - Contacts with authorities.
6. **HELPERS.**
   - God's choice of helpers in the home and in the Church.
   - That the helpers may get a real missionary vision.
7. **HEALTH:**
   - General health.
   - Protection of their minds. That is that they may not become morbid, or morose, or allow their constant contact with the native life to undermine their spiritual viewpoint.
   - Protection from despondency.
8. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
   - Contacts with the home helpers.
   - Protection of correspondence, that nothing be stolen or lost.

THE ABOVE—

That you, dear prayer warrior, may be able to fight side by side with the missionary, using that one and only effective weapon against the invisible foe, prayer.

Our praying may unleash the power of God and frustrate the evil spirits that hold the heathen in their grasp.

(Selected).

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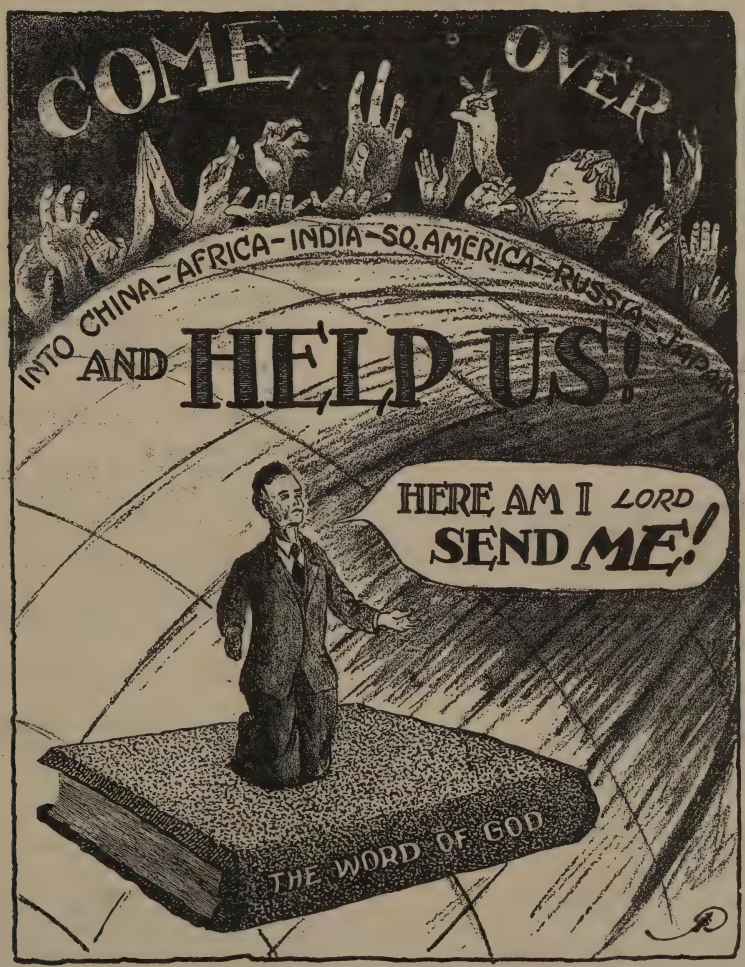
THE CONGO MISSIONARY MESSENGER



A word to rouse the Church from rest,
To heed the Master's high behest,
The call is given: Ye hosts arise,
Our watchword is, **Evangelize!**

Vol. XIX **MARCH-APRIL, 1949** **No. 2**

THE CONGO INLAND MISSION

A Co-operative Mission in the Belgian Congo

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Recently Accepted
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Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Entz
Rev. and Mrs. John B. Jantzen
8 Sherman St., Hartford Conn.

Address of mission and all missionaries except Mukedi Station and Mutena Station.
Charlesville, Kasai District, Congo Belge, Africa.
Cable address Conin. **Charlevsille, Congo Belge.**

Mukedi Station Address: **Mukedi, par Kikwit, District, du Kwango, Congo Belge, Africa.**

Mutena, via Tshikapa, Kasai Dist., Congo Belge, Africa.

The above missionaries represent the following religious bodies:
Mennonite General Conference (15)
Central Conference Mennonites (10)
Evangelical Mennonite Conference (13)
The Evangelical Mennonite Brethren (5)
Missionary Church Association (1)

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THE CONGO MISSIONARY MESSENGER

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The Intercessory Missionary

Some years ago my eyes fell on the record of a wonderful work of grace in connection with one of the stations of the China Inland Mission, where both the number and the spiritual character of the converts had been far greater than at other stations, and yet the consecration of the missionaries at the latter had been just as great as at the more fruitful place.

This rich harvest of souls remained a mystery until Mr. Hudson Taylor on a visit to England discovered the secret. At the close of one of his addresses a gentleman from the audience came forward to make his acquaintance. In the conversation which followed Mr. Taylor was surprised at the accurate knowledge the man possessed concerning this Inland China Mission.

"But how is it," Mr. Taylor asked, "that you are so conversant with the conditions of that work?"

"Oh," he replied, "the missionary there and I are old college mates and for years we have regularly corresponded; he has sent me names of enquirers and converts, and these I have daily taken to God in prayer."

At last the secret is found! A praying man at home, praying definitely, praying daily for specific cases among the heathen—this is **the intercessory missionary idea.** This man had become a real intercessory missionary.

How different the record of missionary service would be if each missionary on the field had such an intercessory missionary to hold up his hands!—**S. C. Todd.**

Editorials

January 1st, Miss Kornelia Unrau arrived in the Congo, after the long delay in New York because of the shore-men's strike which was mentioned in the last issue. We are rejoicing with her that she is now back among the people whom God has called her to serve in the saving of their souls and the healing of their bodies. May the Lord richly bless you, Miss Unrau, as you enter upon this another term "In the Service of the King."

SAFE ARRIVAL

* * *

Busily engaged at Mukedi is the Dr. Merle Schwartz family. January 5th was the arrival date after a very fine trip by air from Brussels. "So many things we must leave undone, or at least put off indefinitely,"seems to be the regret of all of us who are engaged in "full-time service." We rejoice to hear of the blessings that are being bestowed upon you, Dr. Schwartz and family, and our prayer is that these might be increased as the days and years pass swiftly by.

DR. & FAMILY "AT HOME" ONCE MORE

* * *

The next phase of study for Miss Irma Beitler is the tropical medicine course. Miss Beitler will be moving to Antwerp and will there live in a large home with a group of other girls engaged in like studies. The lady of the home is making a real contribution to missions in opening her home to these young ladies. It seems that every day we have new blessings that we can be thankful for.

ANTWERP BOUND

* * *

After 6 months of study in Belgium, The Lawrence Rempels have sailed to make a very positive contribution to the cause of Christ in the Congo. They will be locating at Mukedi where one of their goals will be the building of a new hospital wing. May the Lord provide guidance, strength, and grace for every step.

THE REMPLE TRIO

* * *

We sorrow with the Sprungers in that their home was graced but just for a few minutes by the presence of David Eugene, who was born January 12. After only a few breaths he went to be with the Lord. Our disappointment, but His appointment. Although there is a hurt, the Sprungers say, "Why, we do not know, but His plan and purpose is our only desire."

HIS WILL! NOT OURS!

* * *

Personal contact works both ways: **We benefit — They are encouraged.** Be sure to read "Personal Missionary Program" on pages 18-19-20. Avoid the high duty which the missionaries are sometimes forced to pay by marking gifts "unsolicited gift." Read the above mentioned article, then read it again, gather encouragement and information for yourself.

CALLING ATTENTION!

* * *

Annual C. I. M. Meeting on April 12, 1949. Pray for the important decisions that must be made. We must go forward! There is no standing still! Certainly, we do not want to retreat! Think of the high privilege that we have been given. It is His work but He has left it for us to do.

PRAYER REQUEST

* * *

Definite prayer brings results. We pray earnestly, then let us work earnestly. C. I. M. must take aggressive forward action if we would maintain our own assigned territory. Will we pray and act too late?

PRAY NOW OR 5 YEARS LATER?

Letters from the Field

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AT MUKEDI

Oct. 13, 1948

Dear Friends:

O sing unto the Lord a new song; for he hath done marvelous things; His right hand and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory. The Lord hath made known his salvation. Ps. 98:1-2.

Twenty-five years ago today, Rev. Bixel, Rev. and Mrs. Moser and I arrived at Mukedi the first time. Mr. Moser and Mr. Bixel have both gone to be with the Lord. Mrs. Moser is at home in the States because of ill health. I praise the Lord for all these years of his loving care and the privilege of serving Him here. His loving kindness has been new every morning.

There was no welcome for us tweny-five years ago when we arrived. In fact we wondered if any one lived in this large village. Today we had a praise and testimony meeting. Several of the boys who were hiding and watching us when we arrived gave their testimony. One of them told how we arrived being carried in hammocks carried by two men as patients are carried to the hospital now. There were no cars nor any auto roads in these parts then. He also told that we were very good to look at, we wore clothes, and Mrs. Moser and I had on such pretty red sweaters. He said we watched them day after day and saw that they had balubas working for them. They too had nice bodies and wore clothes, so they decided we did not eat people. He said their parents warned them not to stay for meetings; for when we closed our eyes to pray, they might get sleeping sickness. Then he thanked the Lord that now he knew the Lord and has been brought out of darkness into the marvelous Light of the Gospel. This man came to the mission in 1926 and is one of the men who has been helping Miss Sprunger translate the Bible into Kipende.

Several told how their parents had warned them not to come to the mission. One man who has been with us twenty-one years told that he was "nurse-maid" for two of his little relatives. When he came here the African school teacher wrote his name on the school register. He plead with him to erase it, but he would not. But he told them that he could go back to the village, the white people would do nothing about it. Later he came determined to go to school. The mother of one of the babies he was taking care of, said he would cut off the babies head if he would not return to the village to take care of him. Again he returned to the village but later came to stay. How we thank the Lord for His saving power, and His provision for us. All these years He has supplied the African help we have needed. He has daily showered us with His benefits. When we first came here we often wondered what we would have for the next meal, but we never left the table hungry. Often those first months, when Brother Moser would ask me to return thanks at table, I'd silently ask that the dessert for the meal would be supplied, and behold before we left the table a little African would come to sell a forest pineapple. We were certainly living from hand to mouth. "From the Lord's hand to our mouths." He has given us precious memories of His loving care for us.

This letter would grow much too long if I should attempt to tell you just a little of His goodness to us through all these years. We found no buildings here. There was nothing . . . just nothing . . . and we came with very meager supplies. Now we have gardens and houses that are comfortable. When our temporary house was struck by lightning just after our supplies arrived, how the Lord so graciously protected us and again supplied our needs. The Lord is not limited and we thank and praise Him.

In the beginning, for a number of years we saw little response to the Gospel, but in '38 to '41 there was a great ingathering of souls. Now there is a group of Christians

who are telling the glad news of Salvation by Grace. I wish I could give you some of the testimonies. Pray with us that there may be yet many more who will believe on the Lord Jesus Christ their Saviour. We pray that the Name of the Lord may be magnified.

In closing, we praise the Lord for His faithfulness and look to Him for our needs to serve Him until He comes to take us to Himself. I am

Yours in His Glad Service,

Erma M. Birky.

"IF" FOR MISSIONARIES

If you can hear God's call, when those about you
Are urging other calls and claims on you.
If you can trust your Lord when others doubt you,
Certain that He will guide you in all you do,
If you can keep your purpose with clear vision,
Bear lack of sympathy, yet sympathize
With those who fail to understand your mission
Glimpsing His world-task through your Master's eyes.

If you can work in harmony with others
Yet never lose your distinctive aim,
Mindful that even among Christian Brothers
Methods and plans are often not the same;
If you can see your cherished plan defeated
And tactfully and bravely hold your peace;
Be undaunted when unfairly treated,
Praying that love and good will may increase;

If you can trust to native Christian brethren
The church you've built in lands across the sea,
Seeing in them as your growing children,
Promises of men that are to be;
If you can lead these eager, weak beginners
By patient, loving care, your life, your prayer,
For failures and mistakes not judge as sinners,
But make their growth in grace your earnest care;

If you can share with humblest folk your virtue;
If nobler souls are richer for your touch,
If neither slights nor admiration hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill your most discouraged minute.
With sixty seconds' worth of patience true;
Yours is the task, with all the challenge in it,
You'll be a missionary—through aud through.

—Selected.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AT MUKEDI

Dear Ladies of the Auxiliary,

Greetings in the name of our precious Saviour. In the first place I am writing to you to express the appreciation of the Mukedi missionaries for all of the lovely linens and supplies that you sent to be used in our guest house. The white hospital here is very often used in that capactiy and other times also used for other guests who are passing through and need a place to stay. Hospitality being one of the virtues of a Christian we feel that we have real opportunity here as our station is on one of the main highways and a frequent stopping place for travelers as well as patients. Heretofore our guest house was supplied with things the missionaries themselves could spare or things bought with gifts from visitors. So you can see how very welcome are the blankets, bedspreads, linens, rug, etc.

Also I wish to mention the fine supply of surgical supplies, baby layettes and obstetrical linens which have been coming. It makes us realize what a large group there is behind the work there at home. Seeing the material results of your work makes us realize the power of prayer that is there also and we know the Lord is richly blessing your groups as they labor for him in these ways.

Yesterday being Women's World Day of Prayer, we had planned an afternoon program here in the church. In our women's group we have fifty-five more or less regular attenders. Of these, thirty-two willingly left at dawn to go to the nearer villages to tell the village women of our meeting and to invite them to attend.

Our program was woven around the theme of prayer with several personal experiences of answered prayer being given by both Af-

rican women and missionaries. Several of the women were on the program with short talks and a special song given by a quartet of two Africans and two missionaries. Mrs. Sprunger gave a challenging message to which even the village women gave very good attention. We had a few minutes of silence during which each woman was asked to give herself, time and means to the Lord for the coming year. This was followed by an open prayer session.

There was 370 women present and over 400 children. Naturally with a crowd that size with so many children there was plenty of noise from time to time but in spite of that one really felt the presence of the Lord. The women themselves felt it. Several came to me afterwards and commented on the success of the meeting. They felt as if they really had a part in it. We are praying that the seed sown will reap a great harvest as the majority of the women present were not saved. We praise Him for the great opportunity and also that our African women will realize and accept the challenge of this opportunity for themselves.

Pray for the women. They are women like yourselves with families, duties, the responsibilities of any mother in America only with a background of fear, superstition, and supression. But God loves each one of them and the very least we can do is to pray for them. "Our prayers and God's mercies are like two buckets in a well—while one ascends, the other descends." Praise Him for his faithfulness in answering prayer.

Yours for Congo's lost,

Dorothy Schwartz.

NEWSY NEWS FROM CHARLESVILLE

Dear Co-workers:

We rejoice to know that God is with us here and at the same time with you in the homeland. As we seek Him and labor for Him He blesses us.

One day the children of the station were coloring their finger nails with red crayons. One of the missionaries came along and questioned as to why they were doing this thing which they knew was wrong. One of the little girls promptly replied, "Oh, we are playing we are not Christians." The children know it, why don't we older ones know that all we do either brings men to Christ or drives them away.

Rev. Rocke took the long way home when he went to get the children at Lubondai. Miss Lodema Short was taken first to Mutena. She had been teaching at Central School for one semester. Then to Nyanga with Carol and Paul Toews and two trunks for the Sprunger boys. Then back to Charlesville with Carolyn Schnell to see her new baby brother and all the rest. Carolyn proved a blessing to us all during her vacation. Her mother especially appreciated her helping hand.

Jackie and Daisy arrived at Charlesville in December. However, they almost went down in the Kasai before making their destination. Who are they? Oh, two donkeys. It was pouring down rain and night too, with slippery roads. The panel truck slipped off the planks of the ferry leaving the rear end of the truck straddling one plank. Mr. Rocke and Mr Graber answered Mr. Schnell's S.O.S. for help at an unearthly hour of the night. After 2 hours of calculating and manuvering the car and contents were safely landed. Mr. Graber's pickup stuck in the mud till morning but the heavier truck made it up the hill to the mission.

After our Christmas service and white offering in the church the Schnell family entertained the station to a bountiful turkey dinner. Most everyone had received packages from home. We also had a station gift exchange. Anna Liechty just received two wire recordings from home Christmas week so we all heard her sister's wedding and her family speak and sing on Christmas afternoon. We can't tell you in words how much packages from loved ones and friends mean to us. They are a source of real cheer. However, some of our friends would do well to remember that we must pay up to about 50% customs on some articles we receive. For instance several small hankies valued by the sender at a dollar each cost nearly that much on top out here. New materials washed once can be labeled used and customs will not be nearly so steep.

Remember our Christian Africans in prayer. This year I so want by God's strength to help our Bible women to know the joy of greater service for Him.

Sincerely,

Ina Rocke.

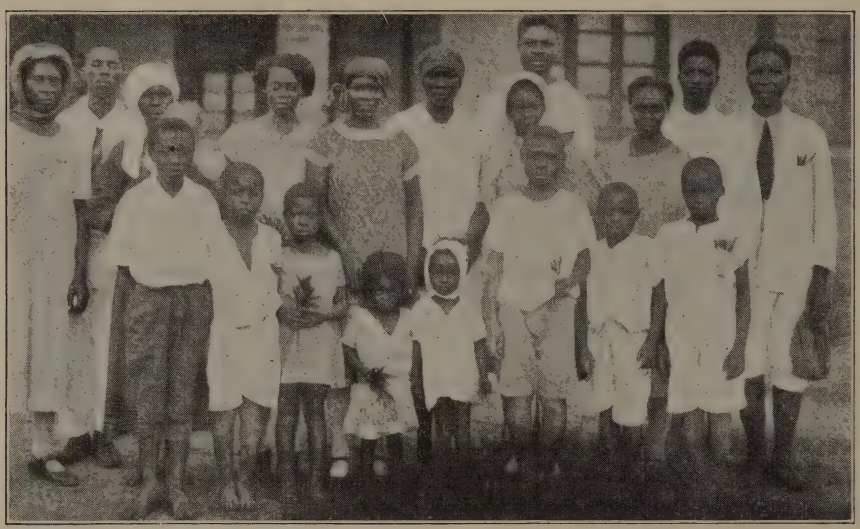
REV. SPRUNGER WRITES

Dear Congo Friends,

How rapidly time has elapsed. It seems but a short time since we left the shores of the U.S.A. but alas it was on July 29 that we actually set out for the Congo. Just two weeks later we arrived at Matadi on the Congo River without having made any stop except when we anchored at the mouth of the Congo River on the evening of August 11, prior to sailing up river on the 12th.

The medical car which had been brought as far as Matadi by Rev. Graber two months earlier was waiting there for us and it certainly came handy for the eight days that we spent at Matadi clearing all baggage through customs. Of course we had not only our own but also that of Merle and Dorothy, that of Jim and Genny, and that of Erma Beitler. Only a few boxes had to be opened, but have again found out that in addition to marking on our invoices of all baggage, the items contained, the value of each item, whether articles are new or used, we also should have put down the net weight of each item. I found out later that they had to estimate all the weights and did they ever overestimate the weight of 200 shot gun shells. They are supposed to weigh 192 lbs. according to the entry on the sheet from the customs office. You might ask what difference that would make. Customs are charged not only on the original value but an additional value is given to the items at the rate of about three and one half cents a pound. The reason being that an item is worth as much more in Congo than it is in America as it costs to get it across the ocean and the rate is calculated at about 3 and one half cents a pound for freight. That makes shells expensive.

The trip from Matadi and then from Leopoldville to Mukedi was quite pleasant except for the one night that we had to sleep in the car and had a mosquito band or chorus giving us a tune all night. We were given a royal welcome upon arriving home.



"Since the Gospel has come."

We are in a very busy season of the year. This is the time to get the statistics together for the year, the time to write the annual reports, the time to close schools, which means examinations and report cards. Conference time is just around the corner and it is our turn to entertain the Conference this year. Naturally we want to do a little painting, get things in good condition just like those of you do at home when you have the Annual Conference come to your town.

In addition to the above things, this year we are hoping to have the inspector of schools visit us and evaluate our schools to know how they comply with the govern-

ment program of education. If favorably, we hope to get some grants from the government for the improvement of our schools and for building purposes. We are in dire need of more school buildings and we hope to be able to build soon. If our schools comply with the State standards we can apply for some financial help for the construction of more school buildings. This all sounds good, and I believe we will meet requirements favorably, however, we are being given five years to comply with the standards completely in regards to teacher qualifications, both white and African.

As I mentioned while on furlough, we are in need of more qualified teachers on the mission field. There should be a minimum of at least one couple and one other teacher qualified to teach grade school, or high school. There ought to be at least two of these qualified to teach high school. The new station at Tshikapa will need a special staff of teachers for high school. Some time after our annual conference I hope to write a little article on our educational set-up so you will all know what the situation is, what our needs are and what you could do about it. In the meantime pray for the work in all of its phases, Evangelistic, Educational, and Medical as well as the construction of more buildings, and the expansion of the work as a whole.

Yours for a Christian community in this land of Congo which is the land of Christian opportunity.

Very sincerely in Him,

Vernon J. Sprunger.

COUNT IT DONE

"A Father wrote to his son,
Who was far away from home.
"I have sent you a beautiful gift,
It may be delayed, but 'twill come;
It is what you have wanted most,
And have asked for many days;"
And before the child received the gift
He voiced his thanks and praise.

Our Father saith unto us:
"Your need shall be supplied;
Ask and receive that your joy may be filled,
And My joy in you abide."
Shall we wait to thank till we see
The answer to every prayer?
Forbear to praise till we feel
The lifted pressure of care?
Nay, let us trust His word
And know that the thing is done,
For His promise is just as sure
As a father's to his son."

Annie Johnson Flint.

INTERESTING ITEMS FROM NYANGA

January 23, 1949

Dear Readers of the Messenger,

In this my first letter to the "Messenger" since I left home it seems appropriate to review a few of the events. On August the 8th our home church gave me a farewell, and on the 13th we as a family left Inman by car in the general direction of New York, our destination being Washington D. C. The first night we had a service with the congregation at Columbus, Kansas. That was Friday. Sunday we spent with dear friends in the "Go Ye" mission at Tahlequah, Oklahoma. The following days we enjoyed beautiful scenery, especially in the Ozarks, and visited historical places such as the site of the first permanent English settlement at Jamestown, quaint Williamsburg restored as it had been in colonial days, Mt. Vernon, and Washington D. C. But more precious to me than all that was the companionship of my family. Two weeks sped by quickly. On August twenty-sixth I took the train from Washington D. C. for New York, and the family started on their homeward journey. On the twenty-ninth I started the ocean voyage, and landed at Matadi of the Congo on September 13. After spending almost a week at Matadi I started the overland journey with the mission pick-up truck that had come on the same boat with me, and arrived here at Nyanga on September the twenty-seventh, where a hearty welcome awaited me by missionaries and African friends.

I have had to make many adjustments. The home is so quiet and empty. Much work, however, has kept me from getting too lonesome. Coming to the field just after the government had announced its decision to invite our missions to cooperate in educational work I had the opportunity to soon meet missionaries of all of our stations in committees wrestling with educational and other post-war problems of expansion. With the

consent of the Board we have entered into agreement for mutual aid with the government in educational work, and also asked the government for permission to open up a station in the Bashilele tribe. The work at Tshikapa we hope will soon be a reality. With the new program of intensified educational work, and extended evangelistic work we need to renew our consecration for the large task ahead. Consecrated young people, and consecrated money is needed; and above all earnest united prayer.

In the new educational program the government asks us to teach religion, and puts no restrictions on our Bible teaching. Up to now our Christians had no opportunity to send their children to state subsidized schools unless they sent them to Catholic schools. But they paid taxes as well as the Catholic Christians. Consideration of our African Christians as citizens of the Belgian Congo influenced our decision to accept subsidy.

Will you please continue to uphold us and the work in prayer. We need the Lord's guidance all along, and especially in this time of many changes. "Pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run and be glorified."

We and the African Christians were very happy to welcome Miss Kornelia Unrau upon her arrival here January the 18th. We are also happy to hear that Dr. and Mrs. Schwartz and children have safely arrived at Mukedi.

Yours in His service,
F. J. Enns.

TEXTS OF FAMOUS MEN

The text from which John Bunyan preached to the multitudes—**John 6:37.**

The text that saved William Cowper from suicide—**Romans 3:24, 25.**

The text that made Martin Luther the hero of the Reformation—**Romans 1:17.**

The text that comforted the troubled soul of John Wesley—**Mark 12:34.**

The text that made Livingstone a missionary—**Matthew 28:19, 20.**

The text to which John Knox anchored his soul—**John 17:3.**

The text that gave William Carey a world vision—**Isaiah 54:2.**

The text that made William Penn a conqueror—**I John 5:4.**

The text on which Michael Faraday staked everything—**II Timothy 1:12.**

MISSIONARY PARAGRAPHS

A woman in India stood by a heathen temple that was in process of construction. A missionary asked her the cost of the building. She looked at her questioner in surprise and answered, "Why, we don't know. It is our god. We don't count the cost."

* * *

A steam packet was crossing a stormy bay, when the engine suddenly stopped, and for a few minutes the situation was one of real peril. An old lady rushed up to the captain and asked anxiously, "Is there any danger?"

"Madam," was the reply, "we must trust in God."

"O sir," wailed the woman, "has it come to that?"

* * *

A young Buddhist who had made a very careful study of the Christian religion, and particularly of Christ, said to a Christian, "Your Christ is wonderful, oh, so wonderful! But you Christians, you are not like Him."

Without knowing it, the Buddhist had pointed out the greatest need of present-day Christianity—more of Christlikeness in those who bear His name.

* * *

An Indian said that in his preparation for the Sunday services, he made his body very clean, from head to foot. "Then," he added, "I sit down and **think** Jesus until it is time for me to go."

How many of us "think Jesus" before we, go to Church?

* * *

Bishop Latimer, bound to the stake, said to Bishop Ridley, "We shall today light such a candle, by God's grace, in England, as I trust shall never be put out."

* * *

A noted orator asked Dickens for the most pathetic story in literature, and he said it was that of the Prodigal Son. Mr. Coleridge was asked for the richest passage in literature, and he said it was the first sixteen verses of the fifth chapter of Matthew. Another asked Daniel Webster for the greatest legal digest, and he replied that it was the Sermon on the Mount.

MINUTE MEDITATIONS

Positive action cannnot result from negative thinking.

* * *

Can you honestly say to your children, "Come, follow me"?

* * *

Have you been able to take kindly the counsel of the years?

* * *

Big problems present big privileges, don't consider it a duty any longer.

* * *

The thing you positively refuse to enjoy, plays one large part in forming your character.

* * *

The easiest person to deceive is yourself.

* * *

So many of life's evils can be cured by real love.

* * *

We reach the higher heights on our knees.

* * *

The Holy Spirit does not flow in and through methods but through men.

* * *

Some people prefer to announce "bad news" rather than no news at all.

* * *

Man despairs, Jesus never.

* * *

When the devil quoted Scripture, he always exposed himself.

* * *

Some people can make quite a demonstration, yet feel nothing "from the heart."

* * *

Messengers of gloom have no affect on Jesus. He pays no attention to clouds or "foggy going."

* * *

When we are willing to do what we can, we shall be surprised at how much we can do!

* * *

Confession is good for the soul.

* * *

A lofty virtue, "Just pay no attention."

* * *

Anything that takes away, even the tendency to worship the Lord Jesus, that is sin.

* * *

Some touches are not even felt.

There is a world of difference in being able or in being willing to do a thing.

* * *

Let the Pharisees criticize, Jesus Christ justifies and rewards.

* * *

Men are much more important to God, than regulations and ordinances.

* * *

Redemption involves much more than the forgiveness of your sin.

* * *

Have you lost so many precepts of Christian living, that your living invites no less than questioning?

* * *

Feeling is never fact.

* * *

Obedience does not produce right relationship but it certainly proves right relationship.

* * *

As "the army of the Lord," we are not as militant as the army of the U. S. A. We need to learn to "obey orders" and mobilize.

* * *

"Whoso doeth" proves enduring relationship.

* * *

We get so involved in and with our work, we forget the Master Mechanic behind it!

* * *

Faith doesn't stop to wonder what it can do, it just goes ahead and does.

* * *

The power of prayer has never been tried to its full capacity in any church.

* * *

It is often more difficult to get the consent of our mind to be willing to be taught, than it is to really learn.

* * *

The church needs to get next to life and then really live.

* * *

Complete victory over anything, can never be had by running away from it. Why? We take ourselves in the running.

* * *

Even the attitude of compromise has robbed you of the things you need and strive most for.

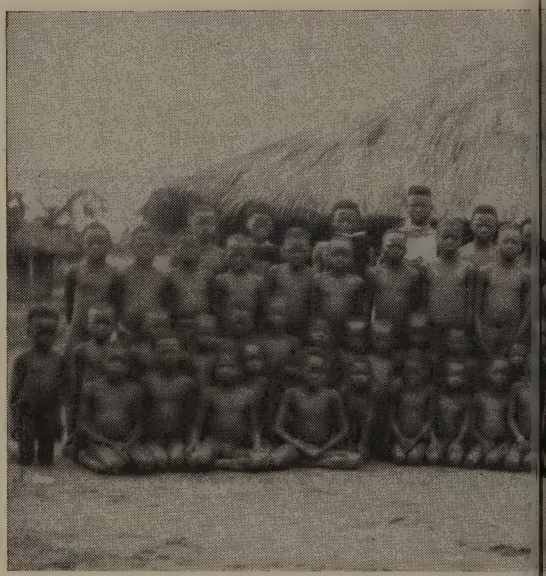
(Continued on page 20)

CHARLESVILLE ECHOES

By Russell F. Schnell

Already we are in the turmoil of a New Year and have to remind ourselves continually of that text we preach so often to those in the homeland. "Lift up your eyes and look." There are plenty who lift up their eyes, but few who really look and see those fields which are white unto harvest. This year, in spite of difficulties encountered in introducing a new educational program, there are new challenges and opportunities for each and every one of us if we look up and not keep our noses steadily down on the grindstone.

There are some 980 boys and girls enrolled in the different station schools which includes the branch school across the river. Just imagine what an opportunity presents itself in saturating these young minds with the Word of God. What a challenge this ought to be to some of you young men and women who have dedicated your lives to His cause. There are 99 girls enrolled this semester, and is one of the highest enrollments on record.



Mr. Toews paid us a visit when he brought the Sprunger children and his own on their way to Lubondai. Also this month a car full of single blessings passed through here on their way home after spending an enjoyable month at the lake.

Mrs. Rocke is teaching Marilyn and Leland an hour a day, which keeps them out of mischief at least that length of time. The children get a big kick out of school and we hope this continues on in later years.

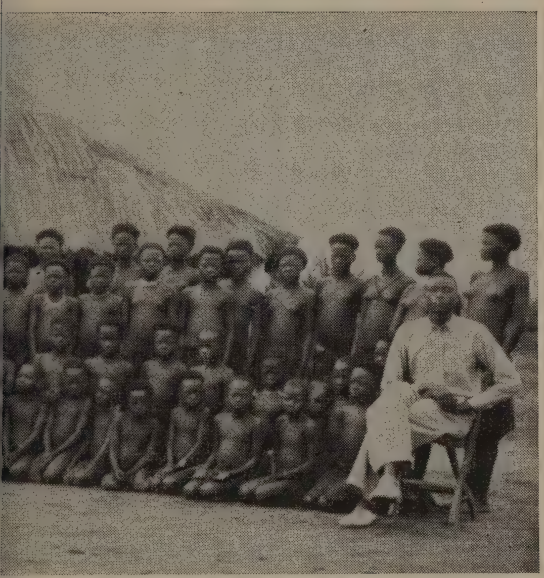
A strong wind the other day blew off quite a bit of palm thatch from the school houses leaving the pupils a little more exposed to heavenly sunshine and showers of blessings. We are still hoping and praying for permanent roofs, so we can have school on rainy days as well. Soccer ball is in high pitch. Volley ball has been introduced and there is much enthusiasm for it, although they often prefer to use their heads instead of their hands and one must always remind them not to think with their feet. We could probably advance much sooner forward, if we would start doing everything backwards, that is, according to native thinking. At least, there would be much less chance for argument.

When one hears rhythm in the direction of the Print Shop, your hair begins to stand on end as you know the machine is running twice as fast as it should be, even though hand-powered. That is why some Missions are using gas engines and fixing the throttle so that the natives cannot run the machine too fast. Your heart skips a beat or two before you get there thinking you might find a mass of wrecked machinery. It is one just continued scolding out here, week in and week out, and year in and year out. For

should anything break, you might just as well save your words for a more opportune time, for according to native thinking, Things just break of their own accord.

The Maternity Hospital did not need any horns to usher the New Year in. The little pickaninnies thought they were quite capable of doing it themselves. With compulsory medical care for school children, the lines at the Dispensary every morning have been lengthened, not only because some are in dire distress, but others feigning sickness so they can taste the different kinds of medicine available.

The Charlesville Bookshop has had an exceptionally good month, even to the selling of many books to outsiders. We praise God that we now have some copies of the whole Bible again for sale. We also have a good supply of French Bibles as well as gospels of Luke and John in the native language. The Bookshop is a favorite gathering place after school hours for book lovers. Pray that many will have a desire to have a copy of God's own Precious Word this year to read and meditate therein and come to know Him better.



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FAITH THAT WORKS

"Faith is needed all the way,
Faith to toil and faith to pray,
Faith to learn and faith to teach,
Faith to practice, faith to preach;
Faith to start each day anew,
Faith to do our duty, too;
Faith to help the weak along,
Faith to bear, in patience, wrong;
Faith to smile, though sad within,
Faith to conquer every sin,
Faith to ask Him for His care
While we earthly trial bear;
Faith to smother every sigh,
Faith to live and faith to die."

Gipsy Smith tells of a number of people gathered together at an informal meeting where opportunity was given for testimony. One said he had been saved from drunkenness, and another from gambling, and another from a life of pleasure and so on. Presently a sweet and beautiful girl arose, born in a good home, refined and cultured. She looked at the people who had given their testimony, and then she said, "God has done a great and wondrous thing for many of you who have spoken. But," she added, "He did more for me than for all of you: He saved me from an easy armchair."

Saved through the blood of Jesus, saved from eternal doom,
Saved, too, to share Christ's glory, saved until He shall come:
Saved from o'erwhelming sorrow, saved from distracting care,
Saved from a world of evil, saved from all doubt and fear.

H. D. C.

BEHOLD! THE LORD COMETH!

Jude 14 "Where's the promise of His Coming?"
This is what the scoffers say,
2 Peter 3: Yet how wilful is their ignorance
1-9 Of the coming Judgment Day.
God will surely keep His promise
But extends the Day of Grace,
For He wills not one to perish
Who will humbly seek His Face.
Luke 21: Many are the signs around us
25, 26 That His coming draweth near
"On the earth distress of nations,"
"Men's hearts failing them for fear."
Matt. 24:21 "There shall be a time of trouble
Such as never was before."
Dan. 12:1 Yet the Lord will save His people
As He saved His servant Noah.

2 Tim. 3: Men are "lovers of their own selves,"
1-5 "Loving pleasure more than God;"
With their own ideas of worship
Not according to His Word.
Covetous are they, unholy,
And despisers of the good,
They "deny the Lord that taught them,"
2 Peter 2:1 Set at nought His precious word,
Christ Himself has given the warning,
His Words "shall not pass away,"
Matt. 24:44 "Therefore be ye also ready,"
"take ye heed," keep "watch and pray,"
Mark 13:33 Those who are His blood-bought children

1 Thess. 4: Shall be "caught up" in the air
14-17 In the Presence of their Saviour
To be "ever with Him" there.
Suddenly glory for the "ready,"
Matt. 24:40, But to countless souls bereft
41 and Oh, what sudden grief and
25:10, 11 terror,
Some are "TAKEN," some are "LEFT,"
Sudden gloom or sudden glory
Will Christ's coming be to you.
Take Him now to be your Saviour.
That YOU may be ready, too.
Titus 2 "Seek ye the Lord while He may
13-14 be found, call ye upon Him while He is near." Isa. 55:6.

Today if ye will hear His voice harden not your hearts.—Heb. 4:7.

—Selected

A Negro said, "If you discriminate against me because I am dirty, I can make myself clean. If you discriminate against me because I am bad, I can reform and be good. If you discriminate against me because I am ignorant, I can learn. If you discriminate against me because I am ill-mannered, I can improve my manners. But if you discriminate against me because of my color, you discriminate against me because of something God gave me and over which I have no control.—**Magazine Digest.**

A missionary was once asked to give a proof that the Cross of Christ would eventually triumph. This is what he said: "When I arrived in the Fiji group, my first duty was to bury the hands, arms, feet and heads of eighty victims whose bodies had been roasted and eaten in a cannibal feast. I lived to see those very cannibals who had taken part in that inhuman feast gathered about the Lord's table."

Congo SPEAKS:

By Russell F. Schnell

A CONGO CHILD MAKES ITS DEBUT

In a few days' time, it will be Christmas. As we look at the starry heavens, one is always reminded of that Star that shone over Bethlehem many years ago. The natives too, often observe the heavens and wonder what is beyond. If someone should see a star or the rays of a star pointing to a certain house, they say that a child by the name of Ntumba will be born in that place. Some of the observers who have watched the star or its rays hovering over the house, informs the occupants and break to them the good news. The parents will be obliged to name the boy or girl born to them Ntumba even though they had selected another name. This even happens before the woman is in the family way.

When the woman becomes pregnant, she is to observe the following rules.

1. She is not to sit on the same log with women who are further along in the family way. She should not help them by pouring water on their hands and walk in their steps. If she does, she will have a miscarriage.

2. When she is three months along, she is to take medicine to retain her child. This medicine is made up of leaves, iron or string. After taking the medicine, more taboos must be observed. She is not to walk in the cross-roads at night, because the spirits walk at night. If she breaks this rule and has a child, it will resemble spirits or some people who have died a long time ago.

3. Not to eat salt, as the eyes will swell and water very much.

4. Not to eat pig meat, or the child will have many sores in its mouth and its teeth will rot.

5. Not to eat beef or the child will have many sores on its chest.

6. Not to eat eggs or the child will not have hair on its head when born.

7. Not to eat okra, or it will be slobbering all the time.

8. Not to sit with both legs the same. Must have one straight and the other bent. If they sit otherwise the child will come feet first and that means death.

9. She is not to hold her head in her hands The child will not come normally but slow as the mother was not happy. The child will take its time coming into this world because it is angry.

8th month. The month of medicines.

A bath is prepared containing sticks, etc., in which she is supposed to bathe every day. Some older women go to the forest to get the different kinds of sticks which they powder and give her to drink as some sort of potion which is to give her good luck at time of delivery.

They make two piles of red dirt in front of their house and in each pile is placed a half gourd full of whitewash. The woman is to paint her face with this in the morning and also before she goes to market. The whitewash indicates that all children come from God. She also removes the hair on one side of her head because the Ruler of the newly expected little king wants everything to be in perfect order. They say that they want to have a clean path and everything in order when the child comes into this world, even though he remains in his birthday suit for several years.

Birth of Child

On the expected day of birth, they hurriedly search for three midwives. When the child is delivered and the manner it is delivered often determines what name it is given. A few examples of some are as follows, although there are many more.

1. If a child is born on its stomach, they name it Tshikudimena which signifies it was born with its face down.

2. If the child is born with the cord around its neck, they name it Kanjinga.

3. If at birth the child rests its head on its hand, they call it Kabungama.

4. A child born to parents having made many charms is named Misenga.

5. A child born just after twins is named Mputu.

6. A child born before twins has its name changed to Lubika.

7. A boy born after three girls is named Ngalamulume.

8. A girl born after three boys is named Ngalula.

9. Both of the above wear a wire ring around their necks.

10. A child born in a crouching position is named Nkima.

In some of the cases above, the father is to give a chicken to his wife and also to the midwives attending his wife. The father is also to take a chicken, palm oil and salt and give it to the midwives to eat. The other chicken, the mother has to eat with the midwives and is not to eat it alone.

As soon as the child is born, they pull its nose, blow in its ears so it will breathe properly. Then they rub it with red dirt and afterwards bathe it. At the time of cutting the cord, they catch the first drop of blood and leave it fall on some red dirt. If they don't, the child will be no good and will not be able to give birth in the future. Then they make a mixture in water, if available, of a little elephant meat, hippo meat, dirt which the frog sits on, or even a little frog meat, some marsh reeds, and with this mixture they wash the child every day for awhile. Since the frog has big hindquarters and the elephant and hippo are also big, the child will also become nice and big.

Strings of medicine are put around the child's neck and chest to protect it from others who have strong medicine to kill children. When they see the child with all his medicine, they will leave it alone and it will not become frail and sickly. The following day someone goes to the water and finds some clay which they clean pots with and some sand from the middle of a little stream or pond. They bring these to the village and the mother rubs it on her breasts so she will have milk. After the rubbing process, she eats a small chicken with native mush and this is to help her breasts to become large and have plenty of milk in a very short time. If the child nurses well, the parents are very happy. If not, the mother is hiding a palaver and is beseeched to confess her guilt, etc.

The mother's part in rearing the child.

The mother is only to wear sacred things. She is to wear a lot of ropes around her waist and to pick out a woman who is to help her keep all the rules of taboo, to take care of her hair, to teach her how to dance and to say witty things about the names of chiefs, etc. When the child is about two and a half years old, she takes off the decorations and is supposed to dance from morning till evening. During this time the father is not to know his wife or beat her. If he does he will have to pay the fine of a goat.

When the child is able to talk and walk quite well, the father and mother go into a huddle. The father gets a goat, many chickens and decides that it is now time for the child to leave its mother's apron strings and that she becomes his wife once more. They plan a big procession and it usually takes place on market day. They kill a goat and many chickens for the feast which follows. The leader of the procession carries the goat's head, the next person, the child. The mother is well greased up and many women dance as they circle the market place. All their friends are supposed to give them a gift of a chicken, palm oil, etc., because they have taken care of the child so well. They dance from morning till night. After the big celebration is over, the wife washes herself thoroughly and puts on her regular clothes. Now the child has become a person.

CONFERENCE 1948 IN THE CONGO

By Rev. A. D. Graber

Greetings in Jesus' Name:

Here we are at Mukedi, December 15. It is very warm and at 8:30 in the morning we are under this tree watching the natives file in from every direction and listening to the church bell. Can't you almost hear it in the homeland? It's Conference time. The big conference is one of the happiest events of the year. Even the children of the missionaries look forward to it and often ask, "When is Conference?" or "How long must we wait until we go to Conference?" It is a time of sharing, of infilling and refilling, and of blessed fel-

lowship with all the other missionaries under the C. I. M. Board.

Now we go into the chapel filled with over 2000 natives, the white missionaries and their families. They are all present this year. The large choir sang and Mr. Toews was the main speaker. The general theme was "The Cross." As always we enjoyed a blessed time around our Lord's table while we were here at Mukedi. Our hearts were stirred as we listened to the speakers on this program. Again and again we were almost overwhelmed as we recognized the greatness of the tasks to be done and the few here to do it. Of the 28 missionaries in C.I.M. only 9 are men. Now the women have an important part to do here and they are doing it but there is so much they can't do. They can't build and do lots of the other industrial work, and it would be most unwise to send women alone on itineraries. We need help. The field is white. God is calling in Congo. Maybe even now as you read this He is speaking to some young men and women to give their lives for Christian service—to COME OVER INTO CONGO AND HELP US. Let us pray for a vision, lest the PEOPLE PERISH.

In the Bashilele Tribe of 20,000 people, about 175 miles from here, there is not one Protestant Mission, but there are 4 BUSY Catholic Stations. Catholicism is on the increase in Africa. May the love of God impel us as never before to pray, to give, and to go so that these poor souls too may enjoy that "peace that passeth all understanding"—the peace they know nothing about, and the peace that we too often fail to appreciate as we ought (otherwise our hearts would be stirred to action) . . . "Every soul you win will add a star of beauty to the crown of glory Jesus has for you." "Will there be any stars in your crown?" Will there be any in mine?

The 300 and more babies, native babies, born in 1948 were indeed a "PASTIME" for the doctor and nurses here. With all the other medical work these surely were a busy people—yet happy because in it all they recognized that they had a particular means of contact that the rest of us missionaries did not have. As they continue to minister to "the least of these" the Lord sees and will reward accordingly. Through the healing of the bodies many hear the gospel and accept it—some maybe a very short time before they die while others are "saved to serve."

Much prayer with thanksgiving ascended to the Father throughout this Conference. Praise God for souls saved—for His guiding hand and providential care over us all through 1948; for bringing us back to the land and the people we have learned SO MUCH to love and where He has called us to witness for Him, and we pray that 1949 will be even fuller and richer so we can see more souls saved and do greater things for our soon-coming Lord. Truly, "The day is far spent." His coming is nearer today than it has ever been before. We praise God for the transportation help you, our friends, have made possible for us—the cars and trucks you so willingly supplied. We are grateful for this Conference and the inspiration it has brought; that all of our missionaries and their children could be present, and we pray that because we've been here other lives will be eternally blessed through us.

Among the songs sung at the Conference were "Thank You, Lord, for Saving My Soul," "Listen to the Whisper of Jesus," and "Trusting in His Love."

We had Christmas dinner with the Schnell family—turkey with all its trimmings. This was quite different from every other Christmas we spent in Congo but when we "Keep our eyes fixed upon Jesus" other things grow strangely dim. We have only a short time here and we are glad to labor together—YOU in the homeland and WE in the Congo.

On New Year's Eve was our usual prayer meeting when we said farewell to 1948. There were no regrets for good done. Our only regret that we could do no more. We thank you EVERYONE from EVERYWHERE for all your prayers and gifts of love, for the greetings and all they mean to us. We sincerely pray God's blessing upon all of you who have been so thoughtful and so faithful. We wish each of you personally a most blessed and happy New Year in the Lord.

A Personal Missionary Program

By Dorothy Haskins

The personal touch is the added something which makes things appeal to us human beings. That is especially true in the vital matter of missions, for we put ourselves so much more fully into missions if we have a special missionary of our very own.

Have you one? If not, wouldn't you like to adopt a missionary as your personal emissary?

We all know that the way to adopt a missionary is to get the name of one from either the missionary secretary or the pastor of our church and then write a letter to the missionary. But, oh, it's that letter which stops most of us! Probably you groan at the very thought of writing a letter. Perhaps that is because you feel you have nothing to write. But take heart, you don't have to say anything unusual. Tell him you are praying for him and are interested in his work. He won't expect you to say anything else.

Gradually, as you begin to share interests with him, you will think of more to write. And you can always tell him of the work of the kingdom near you: what the minister preached on Sunday and how many were out to the Wednesday night prayer meeting. A missionary is interested in the things of the Lord, no matter where they happen. And if you live in an isolated place where there is no church, or only a cold one, you can tell the missionary how much you miss Christian fellowship. He will understand, for he too misses it!

The missionary's answer will probably be what is called a "circular" or a "report letter." This is either a mimeographed or carbon copy of a letter sent to several people. The missionaries send report letters because of time limitations and because they tell the same news to everyone to whom they write, even their mothers.

If you are really in earnest about backing the missionary, you should answer the report letter. Some missionaries send out two different report letters, one to those who have said they were interested but seldom write, and the other, a more intimate letter, to those who pray and write to them often. As you continue to write and prove that you really want to be friends, you will graduate into this second class; or the missionary will add notes to the bottom of the circular letter, until in time you will receive personal replies.

You see, this business of adopting a missionary isn't quite as easy as it sounds. It's simple enough to get a name and write a letter, but after that, you have to win the missionary's friendship. I'm afraid this is true because missionaries have learned from experience not to expect very much from people. Too many have written once in a flash of enthusiasm and have never written again. So be prepared for the friendship to ripen gradually, and then, if you are patient, you will find a rich treasure in the correspondence, because God picks His choicest to be missionaries.

When you write, please don't wait for an answer before you write again. It takes months for a letter to reach missionaries on the other side of the world, months for the answer to come back to you and more months before they receive your answer. This takes far too long—they need your loyalty and interest more often than that. I know of one missionary who becomes so excited when the mail arrives that he can't open it that day or he wouldn't sleep that night. He has to wait until the next morning. He is so excited because he is eager to know who has been praying.

If a letter means that much to the missionary you should write often! Set yourself to write at least once a month. Perhaps there is something you can use as a reminder. I attend a monthly prayer meeting for China and use that as a reminder that another month has passed. The next evening or so I write my missionaries in China of the meeting, who were there, for whom we prayed, and add a personal note—if I can think of one.

More than one misionary has told me that the thing she misses most on the field is a dime store. Think of the inconvenience of not being able to buy the many small items that you and I buy each week! The missionary has to take everything he will need with

him, or wait for someone to be thoughtful enough to send the needed item. When you write to your missionary, slip something into your letter. The postal rate to most foreign countries is five cents an ounce, and the average letter doesn't weigh that much.

Stroll around the dime store and select a flat item to send. If you use a large size envelope, you can slip in extra writing paper. Missionaries enjoy attractive stationery on which to write their friends. Or include a birthday card. Pretty greeting cards aren't on sale in foreign countries and many missionaries delight in having one to send to a friend. Oh, there are so many things you can enclose—vegetable or flower seeds, band-aids, gummed reinforcements, labels, seals, hairpins, buttons.

If you ask your missionary what small items she would like, you may be surprised at the different things she will mention. One single woman missionary asked me for a razor blade. It is logical that a razor blade would be useful and that she would have no way of getting one, but I would never have thought of sending it.

And do use attractive stationery. For instance, use note paper with lovely flower pictures on the first sheet. A missionary in Africa wrote me that she used the front page of this type of stationery for a picture in her bleak room.

What do you do with your magazines after you read them? Stack them in the corner for a few months and then give them to the junk man? I'm afraid most of us do, but we could mail them to missionaries. To mail, take an envelope, cut it open at the ends and roll the magazine in it. Then all you have to do is seal and address it. It goes at a very cheap postal rate.

If you want to be a trifle more ambitious, mail your missionaries a monthly package. They like to receive cleaning powders, Kool-aid, or package puddings. (The kind to which one adds only milk saves both sugar and time.) Or books. Look over your shelves and see if you can't spare some. Anyone enjoys the relaxation of a good book, and it would be a rich joy to receive some of the Christian classics that have recently been reprinted. The rate for mailing books is extremely low!

Perhaps you would like to send candy. I sent some candy to a missionary and when she thanked me, she said the missionaries at her station allowed themselves one piece—every fourth day. That ought not to be! Why should the missionaries be denied such simple pleasures? There are so many things which they have to sacrifice that we should make an effort to send them the small pleasures. To mail candy, fill an emptly coffee can with candy that is wrapped separately. If you send chocolates, wrap each piece in wax paper. Put on the cover, seal with adhesive tape and wrap as any ordinary package.

Missionaries also enjoy receiving new material which they can use in their teaching. They use Scripturegraphs much of the time with the natives who can't read, and need new figures from time to time. (Color the figures before you send them. No matter how busy you are, they are still busier trying to reach hundreds for the Lord.) Or send Sunday school Bible pictures to give to those who come to mission meetings.

It isn't expensive to send things to missionaries. The postal rate to China is 22 cents a pound. Your postmaster will gladly tell you the rate to the other countries. You do have to make out a customs declaration card, and be sure to mark your package "unsolicited gift." It is better to send two or three small packages than one large package, because smaller ones are not so likely to be stolen.

If you send a package to a missionary, some one is sure to warn you not to do it by saying the duty is too high. That may be true if you send things in large amounts, but it does not seem to affect small packages. However, it is best to wash clothes first, so that they come under the classification of "used," and to put a very nominal price as the cost of anything sent. Because of this bugaboo, I have written missionaries and offered to pay the duty, but always they replied either that there was no duty, or that the duty was so low it wasn't worth mentioning.

It is really vital that more Christians adopt missionaries, because at the present time, with the unsettled world conditions, it is becoming more and more difficult to get large shipments through the government red tape. Blue Cross shipments were held up for months in India because the new government couldn't find a Blue Cross. (Blue Cross is a

term used to designate missionary or hospital supplies.)

Missionaries in South America can use old greeting cards. (I use the term greeting cards because that includes Christmas cards as well as cards for other special occasions.) One missionary was transferred to a new town and used the cards in her door-to-door visitation work. The people listened to her invitation to the meetings because she gave them the bright cards for pictures on their walls. At Christmastime she gave the used cards to everyone who attended the meetings. She could use hundreds of cards if they were sent to her.

A few simple rules should be followed when sending cards. Throw away those which have long messages written on the back, because the postal authorities consider them letters and will not pass them as printed matter. Cut off the short mesages also, though you can leave the written name on. Mail them in a manila envelope that closes with a clip. Don't use a custom declaration but do write "Printed Matter" on the envelope. The rate is so cheap that no matter how often you mail such cards, it will still surprise you.

Did you ever notice the hours Christian women waste? The next time you are at a gathering of church women notice the time they spend talking with their hands idle. Have you wished there were some polite way you could redeem this time? Try knitting. You can learn to knit simple patterns without looking at the work. I heard of a woman who learned to knit with her hands behind her back so that she could give her attention to the person to whom she was talking. This woman made the effort because she was anxious to knit for soldiers. We can knit for missionaries. The blind knit. It only takes practice to knit without watching.

May I recommend "soakers" as simple to make and always needed. You will find a place for as many as you can knit in your spare time. Missionaries and their converts frequently have babies, and each baby needs from two to a dozen, varying with the climate.

There are several ways that you can get money to carry on your personal missionary program. You could use your tithe, but as we are supposed to give tithe and offerings, it is nice to make this our offering.

If your income is limited, isn't there some extra job you can do in your neighborhood, such as baby sitting, or caring for lawn when the neighbor is away? Or before you go out to buy something, decide what you can afford to pay for it; then hunt for something a little less expensive and give the amount you save to the Lord. Or deny yourself something. One of my friends has an old-fashioned wall telephone. She wanted one of the new, more convenient hand sets. She saved the money for it; then decided to keep the wall phone and give the money to the Lord. If we really mean business with the Lord, we will be willing to deny ourselves to give to Him.

One especially nice reward for having your own missionary is the joy of praying for him. You will enjoy praying for missionaries so much more when you know the definite needs and the answers. And as you pray, and come to know your missionary, you will love him as one of your own family—and isn't that what he is, your brother in Christ?

But the best part of having a personal missionary program is that it is scriptural! In I Corinthians 16:15 Paul says, "They have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints." **—Moody Monthly.**

MINUTE MEDITATIONS

(*Continued from page* 11)

Beware when you begin to ask, "What's the use anyway?" Your back-bone is turning into a wish-bone.

* * *

If you try to look God-ward and world-ward at the same time you defeat every good purpose of your life.

* * *

Slander is the product of small souls.

* * *

Can it ever be said of your disposition in a world such as this; it is priceless.

* * *

Are you sure you aren't a roll of carbon copies of opinions of some one else?

* * *

What does the person who looks back at you from the mirror tell you?

* * *

Say what you mean and mean what you say.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Dec. 2, 1948

Dear Friends,

Greetings of love from Station C.F.C.—Congo for Christ: December? . . . Warm and rainy . . . Morning-glories and roses . . . How different from the States . . . There's NO Christmas shopping — . . . no last minute rushing about until one almost loses the significance of the day of Christ's birth and is almost GLAD when that blessed season is past . . . Happy as the Christmas season should be and IS —yet our hearts bleed for the multitudes who know nothing of our Savior. "Christmas" is not in the natives' vocabulary. They know nothing of the peace and the joy that He alone can give. Instead of a gift exchange among our native Christians in Church we have a "Thank Offering." Maybe we Americans could learn a lesson from our Congo brothers in Christ?

During November we visited a number of outstations. 4,462 heard the Gospel, 15 babies were dedicated to the Lord, 114 were baptized, and 144 returned to the fold. On one particular trip to an old rustic chapel, an outstation, 25 precious souls were baptized. The interest there was inspiring, the building was filled, even the aisles, and there were more outside than in. During the service my attention fell to one on the rear seat whose eyes were rivoted upon the speaker. He had that heavenly glow that we so appreciate and that proves definitely that God has worked His miracle of salvation in another soul. During the communion service this man's tear-filled eyes turned towards heaven. He had a joy that earth cannot give. In Congo men seldom weep but when once God takes possession of a man's life who can tell what He will do through him? Contrast the picture of this redeemed man with that of the aged woman—alone, poor, despised—wearing only a loin cloth, and WITHOUT HOPE. Old folks in Africa are cruelly neglected. They have mud houses built in the long grass. Inside may be a bed of sticks and leaves and perhaps a worn-out mat. If they become sick they are left alone to live or to die. Relatives, if there are any, sometimes send food because they fear the evil spirits. How precious John 14:1, 2, and 3 is to such when once they hear the Gospel and let Jesus into their lives.

On November 18 we were called to Tshikapa to meet the State officials again. Standing on a hill overlooking the beautiful Kasai River, the site for our new station we asked if they were willing that the work go forward, and they all said "Yes." They in turn asked of the Chief who owned that land, "How much do you want for the ground?' He answered "Only that my children may learn of Jesus." The men said again, "But maybe these people will steal or displease you in other ways?" The Chief answered, "I will ask nothing." Such conversations though they may be only a few words encourage us greatly. Further steps were taken to complete the necessary papers that will give us the RIGHT for which we have been waiting these past months. So far as we could see there were no objections. They gave us permission already to cut a road so we have 14 men working there. I hope to be living there by January 1. There is a mud-stick-grass hut there in which to cook, eat and sleep—a grass roof for a garage and I am anxiously waiting for the GO sign. Will you PLEASE CONTINUE to PRAY for this work that all that is done may be directed by the Holy Spirit and will meet the approval of our heavenly Father, not only in the building but in the entire administration of this new mission.

Here are a few other prayer requests we pass on to you:

Pray for more laborers — industrial men and evangelists; for more teachers for our schools. We need them badly; for more doctors and nurses. Their work is never done; for a spiritual awakening—that souls may realize the certainty of death and judgment, the endlessness of eternity the beauties of heaven and the horrors of hell; for religious broadcasting in Congo. We see great possibilities here.

Then PRAISE God for Jesus; for answered prayers; for those who have turned from sin, for those who recently have been baptized; for the health and strength of ALL the missionaries on the field, and for the Annual Conference of December 9-15.

A CHRISTIAN HOME IN CONGO

Ruth E. Dickey, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society

One Sunday afternoon at our girls' vesper service, Kisaka who with his fine young wife teaches and helps with the girls' work, was asked to give his testimony. I share it with you as he told it.

"I came to Vanga as a boy of 11 years. I wanted to go to school but when Dr. William H. Leslie saw me, he said, 'You are too young to come to the mission school.' I was so disappointed I said, 'But I must learn so I can grow in the things of God.' He didn't reply so I remained at the mission. I like to study, and soon finished the Boarding School.

"When I was old enough to be married I prayed about my wife, that God would send me the right girl. One day elders came with four girls. They said, 'Choose the one you want for a wife.' They were not Christian girls and I said 'I do not want any of them, I will choose my own wife when God shows her to me.' They went away angry and when I finally chose my fiancee they refused to help me with the dowry.

"I first met Amaya in September 1933. She wasn't very old then. Her father had come from Sierra Leone and while traveling in this section he took a wife from near my village. When he took sick and died at the mission hospital, the missionaries took his little daughter Amaya and raised her. Amaya was a very bright girl; she finished the Boarding School and also worked in the mission hospital. I knew she was the girl God wanted me to marry. I asked her to become my fiancee. Our relatives consented. The dowry price was paid and in 1934 we were married in the church at Vanga. We have been very happy in our married life and in our home. I have never beaten my wife to this day.

"However, our faith was greatly tested when after being married four years we had no children. My elders came and insisted that I put fetishes in my home so my wife would bear children for the tribe. The tribe must be perpetuated. If my wife did not bear children I must leave her and take another. They went away angry when I refused. I said, 'We are putting our trust in God, if He wants us to have children He will send them to us, for we are praying for children.' My elders came again and again, but in spite of this testing I stood true and refused to take another wife according to the custom of the country. I left everything with God and in our devotions together we prayed for a child. Finally faith prevailed and God sent a baby boy to our home. Since then He has given us two more children. We have tried to show our gratitude to God by making ours a true Christian home. We say grace before meals and have a family altar. Our children have been dedicated to God and we want them to grow up to serve God. Pray for us that ours may be a true Christian home."

Kisaka and Amaya are both fine Christian young people serving the Lord. Kisaka went to the Kimpese Training School in the Lower Congo and has since then been faithfully serving as a teacher in the station school. Theirs is one of the few happy homes in Congo. Their home is next to the girls' home and as my girls visit them they are learning the meaning of love and fellowship in a Christian home.—**From "Missions."**

"Victory is his who prays."

We praise the Lord for all His blessings and for ALL of you who so thoughtfully write and give and pray. Your kindness is a real inspiration to me. May the Lord bless you GOOD—

'Til Jesus comes,

Archie D. Graber.

HOW MUCH DO YOU WEAR

A missionary at home on furlough was invited to a dinner at a great summer resort where he met many women of prominence and position.

After dinner he went to his room and wrote a letter to his wife. He said:

Dear Wife: "I've had dinner at the hotel. The company was wonderful. I saw strange things today. Many women were present. There were some who, to my certain knowledge wore one church, forty cottage organs, and twenty libraries.

In his great longing for money to provide the Gospel for hungering millions, he could not refrain from estimating the silks, satins and the diamonds of the guests at the dinner in terms of his people's need.

If God sends us money to send to perishing millions the Good News of the Saviour from sin, and we spend it for needless luxuries, what does He think of it?—**Unknown.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts for months of December 1948 and January 1949. From Central, E.M.C., E.M.B., and General Mennonite Conferences:

CENTRAL—	
Missionary Allowances	$ 786.34
Evangelistic	172.00
Educational	196.55
Medical	227.90
Clothing	500.00
General	2717.29
Passage	495.50
SPECIAL—	
Missionary Retire. Fund	242.25
New Station—Tshikapa	100.00
School Debt—Charlesville	500.00
Personal for Miss Erma Birky	5.00
Personal for Rev. A. D. Graber	1.00
Total Central	$5944.33
E. M. C.—	
Missionary Allowances	$ 650.00
Evangelistic	50.00
Educational	20.00
General	2516.66
SPECIAL—	
Personal for Rev. and Mrs. James E. Bertsche	123.00
To be sent to Miss Lodema Short for Refrigerator	540.00
Missionary Retire. Fund	100.00
To be sent to Miss Mabel Sauder for Milk for Native Babies	41.50
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC—	
General	$ 306.25
Missionary Allowances	68.75
Total E.M.C.	$4416.16
E.M.B.—	
Missionary Allowances	$ 546.34
Operating Budget	212.56
Insurance Premium	105.50
Passage	850.00
SPECIAL—	
To be sent to Miss Kornelia Unrau	224.00
Personal for Miss Aganetha Friesen	25.00
Personal for Miss Agnes Lutke	50.00
Total E.M.B.	$2013.40
GENERAL—	
Missionary Allowances	$1573.59
Evangelistic	115.00
General	10.00
Operating Budget	975.30
Insurance Premium	278.38
SPECIAL—	
Personal for Rev. Elmer J. Dick	$ 42.49
Personal for Rev. Russell F. Schnell	17.50
Personal for Rev. Henry A. Toews	5.00
Personal for Rev. Vernon J. Sprunger	97.00
Personal for Miss Anna H. Quiring	106.49
Personal for Rev. Archie D. Graber	5.00
Personal for Glenn I. Rocke	5.00
Personal for Miss Fanny Schmallenberger	5.00
Total General	$3235.75
Other than Central, E.M.C., E.M.B., and General Mennonite Conferences—	
Missionary Allowances	$ 256.25
Evangelistic	27.00
Promotional	2.00
C.I.M. History	1.15
SPECIAL—	
Medical Equipment	100.00
Personal for Miss Erma Birky	10.00
Personal for Mrs. Henry A. Toews	25.00
Total, Other than, etc.	$ 421.40
Total Receipts	$16,031.04

WHAT TITHING MEANS TO GOD'S POOR

A few years ago the pastor of a church in Indianapolis told me this incident: During a canvass for tithers in his church a poor widow, a washerwoman, signed the tithing pledge. Two ladies who knew her well and knew how hard she had to work to support herself and little children volunteered, in a spirit of utmost kindness, to call on her and remonstrate. They had both become tithers, but thought while they could afford it she, out of her small income, could not. Coming direct from the washtub and wiping her hands on her apron, she admitted them, evidently pleased that they had called. After talking of other matters for a time they, as tactfully and lovingly as possible, made known their errand. As its full meaning came to her she broke down and, covering her face with her apron, sobbed through her tears, "Let me alone; you are trying to take away the greatest pleasure of my life. Let me alone, let me alone." As they left her humble home they carried with them a new vision of what tithing means to God's poor.

Prayer Changes Things

PROPHETS
Who Prayed—

Samuel prayed, and the Philistines were defeated with a great thunder sent from the Lord; **Elijah** prayed, and a widow's son was restored to life; **Daniel** prayed, and God saved him from the hungry lions; **Elisha** prayed, and the hills were filled with the Lord's hosts against the enemies of Israel; **Jonah** prayed, and the Lord gave him a second chance to perform his mission of warning to Nineveh.

MILITARY LEADERS
Who Prayed—

Joshua prayer, and the walls of Jericho fell down; **Wellington** prayed, and the ambitious Napoleon was defeated; **General Montgomery** prayed, and the allies turned back the aggressor nations; **General Dobbie** prayed, and the Island of Malta survived its terrible bombings; **General Allenby** prayed, and Jerusalem was delivered from the Turks.

MISSIONARIES
Who Prayed—

Hudson Taylor, great apostle to inland China, prayed when the crew of his boat cursed the wind that blew them steadily toward a cannibal island, and the wind shifted in the nick of time.

Count Zinzendorf, Moravian missionary pursued by savage American Indians, prayed and was saved in his tent by a large rattlesnake, which crawled into his tent, lay across his leg and scared his would-be murderers away.

John G. Paton, amid wild tribes in the New Hebrides, prayed at midnight blackness for a way of escape over a high cliff, into the sea, and miraculously slid down an escapement or rock hundreds of feet, without injury.

KINGS
Who Prayed—

David prayed, and Goliath of Gath dropped dead; **Solomon** prayed, and he received wisdom above all men of his generation; **Asa** prayed when defeat seemed certain, and God worked a great victory; **Hezekiah** prayed, and his disease was stayed and years added to his life.

ONE OF OUR missionaries has said, "When once we have real vital prayer from our friends and churches at home, all other things will be easy to get for our work abroad."

"Lord, teach us to Pray." Luke 11:1.

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THE CONGO MISSION MESSENGER

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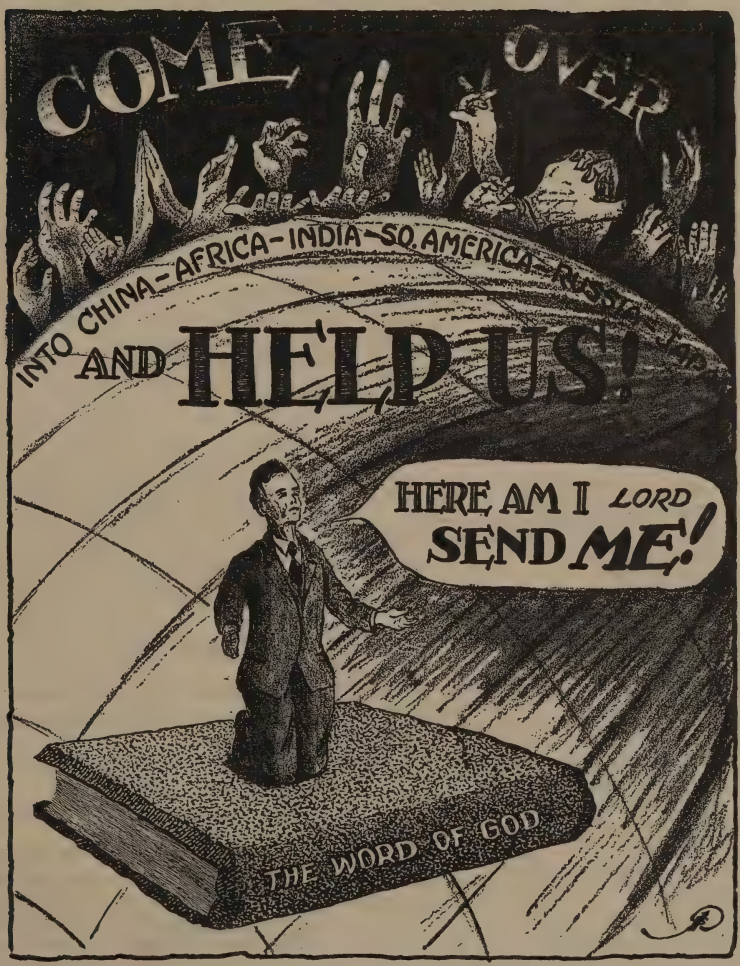

"I can't get interested in Missions," said a young lady. "No wonder," she was told, "You can't expect to. It's just like getting interest at your bank. You have to put something in first, and the more you put in, the more your interest grows."

Vol. XIX **May-June, 1949** **No. 3**

THE CONGO INLAND MISSION

A Co-operative Mission in the Belgian Congo

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Address of mission and all missionaries except Mukedi Station and Mutena Station.

Charlesville, Kasai District, Congo Belge, Africa.

Cable address **Conin, Charlevsille, Congo Belge.**

Mukedi Station Address: **Mukedi, par Kikwit, District, du Kwango, Congo Belge, Africa.**

Mutena, via Tshikapa, Kasai Dist., Congo Belge, Africa.

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The Evangelical Mennonite Brethren (5)
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THE CONGO MISSIONARY MESSENGER

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God Give Us Men

God give us men! A time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith, and ready hands;
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor—men who will not lie;
Men who can stand before a demagogue
And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking;
Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above the fog
In public duty and in private thinking.

Josiah Gilbert Holland.

Editorials

HOME AT LAST

After waiting for weeks and weeks for a sailing date, Miss Fanny Schmallenberger from the Mutena Station in the Congo has returned to the States for furlough. She arrived in New York on May 4th and was escorted to her home in Morton, Illinois by her sister. The Lord was gracious in giving journeying mercies once more to one of His servants and our prayer is that Miss Fanny may have a restful and blessed furlough, be an inspiration and incentive for the cause of missions; but even more than that, may we who meet and fellowship with her, be a blessing of united encouragement that will send her forth to gather in the grain already white to harvest.

* * *

THE CONGO NEXT D. V.

Before the next Editorials are written for the Congo Messenger, Rev. and Mrs. James Bertsche now studying French in Brussels, Belgium and Miss Irma Beitler, R. N., taking a tropical course for nurses in Antwerp, will be well on their way to the Congo. Theirs has been a varied experience while in Belgium and they are looking expectantly toward the field of service, for which they are now in preparation. Even in our study of languages we need the help and blessing of Him who has sent us forth and time after time they have written, "But the Lord has helped us." These young people need the united prayers and a concentrated interest from our constituents in the homeland, if they are to "carry on" in our stead giving the gospel to those who haven't yet heard and doing the many duties that this involves. "We are workers together with Him" and "He working with them." IF WE WOULD SHARE IN THE BLESSINGS WE MUST ALSO SHARE IN THE RESPONSIBILITY.

* * *

WHAT NEXT?

Rev. and Mrs. John B. Jantzen and little daughter, Evelyn Ann, are now on their way home from the Kennedy School of Missions at Hartford, Conn., where they have been taking a course of pre-orientation in language and customs of the Congo. D.V., in early fall they will be leaving the U. S.A. setting sail for Brussels where they too will take up the further study of Conversational French, preparatory to their setting forth to Mission-work in Africa. Rev. Jantzen is a teacher and Mrs. Jantzen being a registered nurse, their opportunities for service will be many and varied. We cannot all go, some are asked to stay, but we can all pray, we can all give, and we must all feel and share deeply this love for the lost of those "other sheep," if our young people are to serve effectively. DO THEY HAVE YOUR PRAYER PLEDGE?

* * *

THE CHRISTIAN

Could I be called a Christian,
If everybody knew
My secret thoughts and feelings
And everything I do?
Oh, could they see the likeness
Of Christ in me each day?
Oh, could they hear Him speaking
In everything I say?
Could I be called a Christian,
If everyone could know
That I am found in places
Where Jesus would not go?

Oh, could they hear His echo
In every song I sing?
In eating, drinking, dressing,
See Christ in everything?
Could I be called a Christian
If judged by what I read,
By all my recreations
And every thought and deed?
Could I be counted Christlike
As I now work and pray?
Unselfish, kind, forgiving
To others every day?

(Continued on page 8)

Letters from the Field

GREAT REJOICING AT NYANGA

Dear Readers of the Messenger—

We find these words of instruction in Scripture, "Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." Ps. 50:15. The facts of this Scripture have become a real experience of the Christians here at Nyanga. When Miss Unrau returned to us recently and the Christians once more saw the face of the one they had hardly expected to see again there was great rejoicing. Again and again as they came to greet her they would say we called upon God and He has heard our prayer and brought our nurse back to us again. Occasionally we'd hear them remark, "She has been brought forth from the grave." This expression shows us that they realized how great the deliverance from trouble was that God had given, nor have they failed to glorify God for His wonderful help. A welcome service conducted by native Christians can rightfully be called a praise service. We co-workers here also rejoice in that which the Lord has done for us and for His work.

This man came to our mission station, ill with pneumonia, not expected to live. The Lord answered prayer, he got well and also accepted Jesus as his Saviour. Does it pay to sponsor missions?

We thank all of you who have remembered us with encouraging letters and greeting cards. The Lord is answering prayer and blessing our labors as He has promised to do.

At present Mr. Enns is making an itinerary to the out-stations. He reports manifold blessings from the Lord in this ministry.

May the Lord also bless you all as you continue to pray for us and share in the spreading of the Gospel.

Yours through His unfailing grace,
Anna Quiring.

SEVEN HINTS
For the Christian Worker

1. Learn to obey promptly and respect those over you in the Lord.
2. Do not be anxious about work which is the Lord's work.
3. Learn to adapt yourself quickly.
4. Let your life speak as well as your tongue.
5. Be willing to take the place which *you* think is the lowest.
6. Listen more and talk less.
7. Be content with Him alone, and trust Him wholly.

A MODERN CRUSADE
Virginia Randall

I can not buckle on a sword
And go on long crusades for God,
I can not force His will on men
Who will not try His way to trod.

I can but live the best I know,
To smile, and lend a helping hand.
May my example lead faint hearts
To ask that they may join His band!

Yesterday is yours no longer; tomorrow may never be yours; today is yours, and in the living present you may stretch forth to the things that are before.—*Canon Farrar.*

GREETINGS FROM CHARLESVILLE

Dear Friends of the Congo,

Greeting you all in the precious name of Jesus.

This is March 12, a beautiful, warm Saturday night. The undertone of the natives and the humming of the insects keep me company as I sit once more to have a little visit with all you loved ones at home.

Before February 17, Mr. Sprunger and I left for a meeting of the Congo Protestant Council at Leopoldville. We drove the pick-up, had to cross eleven ferries and it was a warm, hard trip. The purpose of such a council is to discuss problems and present them to the government through the chairman of the Council who acts like a mediator. It would be very difficult to get along without such a middle-man. It was a full week—meetings were held from early in the morning until late at night, midnight sometimes. Such problems as Education, its new requirements, how to get new books, evangelism, strengthening the church, caring for the flock, and reaching the untouched were discussed. Our present personel is not able to meet the requirements of the State for teaching in our schools. Then there were the medical problems. We have so few doctors, and sometimes such demands are made upon those doctors that Christians cannot and will not comply with them and because of that they must suffer at the hands of cruel men.

All the C.I.M. Stations together have established a Printing Office at Leopoldville. This will bring added work and responsibilities of course, but we believe it will prove to be a great blessing nevertheless.

We are very thankful that the National Broadcasting Station has given us equal terms with the Catholics with regard to radio programs. It may be because we are able to put on better programs than the Catholics, that we were given this privilege. Our Protestant singing far surpasses any of theirs. Pray much that we may be used mightily over the air. We hope to have transcription wires broadcast from Leopoldvlle but the Belgian system has 50 cycles and all American radio has 60 and it has taken considerable time to get this difficulty corrected. However, the attachment necessary for remedying this has been supplied by the Archbold church in Ohio is already on hand. Again we say, "Thank You and Thank you." Some of the larger cities here have loud speakers, so people must hear if they care to or not and if the program is a message from God's Word, who can tell what far-reaching effects this radio ministry may yet have in Congo. "Congo for Christ . . . C.F.C."

After all the business was finished we left for home, tired but satisfied that God was working WITH us.

Today Mr. and Mrs. Rocke returned from Mukedi where they had gone because of the illness of their baby. Pray that God will continue to strengthen and restore their little one. On Wednesday of this week Anna Liechty went 250 kilometers for an appendicitis operation. At present her condition is satisfactory.

Again we must report to you the papers have not yet come for taking over work at Tshikapa. We expect to stop there again on Monday on our way to Nyanga. We are anxious and the natives are anxious too to begin. It is almost time for the dry season and that's the time to make bricks. Surely we have waited and waited, but we yet believe "God is working out His purpose" and He knows the WHY of all these things. "Therefore being confident of this very thing that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

Once more I thank you everyone for all your kindness to me. It encourages, inspires and comforts me more than you know I am sure. May God bless you GOOD.

Yours in His abounding love,

Archie D. Graber.

A RULE OF THREE

1. Three things to govern:
   Our temper, tongue and conduct.
2. Three things to cultivate:
   Courage, affection and gentleness.
3. Three things to command.
   Thrift, industry and promptness.
4. Three things to despise:
   Cruelty, arrogance, and ingratitude.
5. Three things to strive for:
   Health, friends and contentment.
6. Three things to give:
   Alms to the needy, comfort to the sad, our all to the Lord, so that He may be our all and in all.

NEWS FROM OUR CO-WORKERS

Mukedi, March 5, 1949

Our Dear Co-Workers in the Homeland:

"Who can understand the dreadful darkness
In heathen realm of sin and death?
E'en the very air is scorched and tainted
With the dragon's putrid breath,
BUT across the wildest, widest billows,
LOVE can reach to distant lands,
And beneath the deepest, darkest surges
PRAYER can hold a brother's hand."

In only a few more weeks we will again celebrate one of the greatest of days, namely Easter, and may this Wonderful Day and also the Lenten Season mean much to each one of us. What a Wonderful Savior is Jesus! What a privilege it is to proclaim Him! We are happy for those who have accepted this Jesus yet we are saddened by the multitude who are indifferent to Him, who prefer to walk in darkness adhering to witchcraft and the viles of Satan and his hosts. We covet your prayers for the many who express a desire to follow our Lord and Master, but somehow they are not quite willing to give up just everything and let Jesus have pre-eminence in their lives, for when sickness comes they continue their old practices and they are fearful that perhaps God is not quite able to heal them, and thus they do not have the Victory in their lives. Just as Jesus was victorious over the grave, may many find Him to be Victor in their lives.

A pair of twins born at the hospital. The mother is in mourning.

Yesterday, was Woman's Day of Prayer throughout the world. We too had a meeting of our Christian women and many who have never made any profession at all. The Christian women went to the villages and announced the meeting, and as a result, we had almost 400 women not counting their children who numbered again that many. To you in the Homeland it would have seemed a very noisy group, many were not reverent (because they do not know how to worship God yet) but we hope and pray that some of the seed sown may bear fruit. Some of our Christians and we missionary ladies spoke; there was also one special number, "Have Thine Own Way, Lord," given by two Africans and two missionaries, besides prayers, testimonies and songs by the audience.

We praise God for bringing our co-workers, the Schwartz family, back into our midst. Their work is never ended, for the sick are with us always. Not only the Africans come to the hospital for help, but also the white population from many different places. Judy and Bobby Schwartz and our girls, Jeannette and Shirley, have great times together.

The school program is one which involves many hours of work daily since we have tried to comply with State requirements. Our hours are longer than heretofore. Now school is in session from 7:30-11:30, and 1:30-3:30, and six days a week, excluding Saturday afternoon. Six of us missionaries are teaching part time, and then the supervising of over 500 is not an easy task. Our classes are much larger, ranging from 17 to over 50. Our teachers have not graduated from Normal School or College for many have only had five and a half years of schooling themselves, so they need much supervising and help. Records must be kept of their attendance, punishment given upon refusal to attend regularly (which may consist of carrying ground for building purposes, pulling grass for roofing

buildings, pulling weeds, etc.), examinations given regularly, etc. Are there not any of our readers who want to come and help us here? You will not find the work monotonous, I can assure you, although the problems are not a few. We need you! If you cannot come, do pray for us, and the many who are daily being told about Jesus, the Savior of all Mankind—oh, that they may be willing to have Him rule their lives, and thus find peace in their souls!

January 13th marks the date for the burial of the first white person here at Mukedi. David Eugene was born the evening before but soon passed on to be with Jesus. It is hard to understand, yet we know He makes no mistakes and it is not ours to question, for He doeth all things well, and our baby is safe in the arms of Jesus.

Charles and Wilmer are in boarding school again since January 19th, and we are looking forward to their vacation during June and July. Wilmer, will graduate from the Eighth Grade on May 26th. I'm teaching Jeanette Third Grade (Calvert Home Study Course). It would be nicer to attend classes with others her age than to be taught all alone, yet she doesn't seem to mind and enjoys school work. In fact, her days pass all too quickly, because she also plays with the Schwartz children and her sister, Shirley.

Later:—Vernon spent three weeks at Leopoldville attending the Congo Protestant Council Conference which convenes yearly, and then went to Matadi to get the new Mukedi car. We thank you, everyone who had a part in making this car possible because we surely need it, for our old cars are almost like the "one Hoss-shay." May God bless you, each one, because it will be used for the furtherance of His kingdom in Congoland.

Coveting your prayers.

Yours in the Master's Service,

Vernon and Lilly Sprunger.

EDITORIALS

(Continued from page 4)

HAVE YOU?

Among the prisoners taken captive at Waterloo, there was a Highland piper. Napoleon, struck with his mountain dress and sinewy limbs, asked him to play his instrument, which is said to sound so delightfully in the mountains and glens in Scotland. "Play a pibroach," said Napoleon; and the Highlander played. "Play a march." It was done. "Play a retreat." "Na, na," said the Highlander, "I have never learned to play a retreat."

The more we are cut off from human help, the greater claim we can make on Divine help. The more impossible a thing is to human or mortal power, the more at peace can we be when we look to Him for deliverance.

"Only those who see the invisible can do the impossible!"

God will answer when to thee
Not a possibiltiy
Of deliverance seems near;
It is then He will appear.

God will answer when you pray;
Yea, though mountains block thy way,
At His word, a way will be,
E'en through mountains, made for thee.

God who still divides the sea,
Willingly will work for thee;
God, before whom mountains fall,
Promises to hear thy call.

—The Harvester.

You may listen to "gossip" if you have the fortitude to let it go out through the "other ear" rather than "the mouth."

* * *

You must distinguish between what you see Jesus to be, and what He has done for you.

* * *

The "smiles that are really effective" are those that are bathed in tears.

* * *

We should not linger long in rehearsing the past, there is too much in the future.

* * *

We merely look backward to get a prospective for far better and richer things.

* * *

You don't need to know too many things, if what you do know makes sense.

* * *

When there is a problem to be solved, there is a way to solve it.

CONGO GREETINGS FROM THE REMPLE FAMILY

Dear Readers,

"I will guide thee with mine eye"—Psa. 32:8b.

It is wonderful how the Lord has guided us during the last two years, and especially since we left the States last August to sail for Belgium. We feel that the six months in Belgium have been well spent, and that it has better prepared us for service for Him here in the Congo. Many times during the trip we were thankful for the French that we had learned, and not only for the French language, but also that we had learned something about the Belgian people with whom we traveled and with whom we will constantly come into contact here in the Congo.

We left Belgium on the 1st of March during a storm. In addition to raging winds, we also had snow, rain and sleet. Indeed, a faith-shaking day. However, that morning the Lord took away any fear that existed. A number of our missionary friends braved the weather and came to Antwerp to see us off. Farewells were said, but among them we heard only one person saying, rather unconvincingly we thought, I wish I were going with you." After the first few days we had smooth sailing.

On March 15 we finally sighted land. Yes, it was Africa! I cannot tell you the mixture of feelings a person has when one first sights and then for the first time sets foot on the land to which the Lord has called one. Our hearts cried out, "Oh Lord, how unworthy we are."

Since we did not have much time to waste to make the first riverboat, we took the first train to Leopoldville, where Miss Fanny Schmallenberger met us and assisted us in transferring from the train to the riverboat. (Incidentally, Miss Schmallenberger was at Leo waiting for passage to the States.)

The trip up-river was interesting, but not as exciting as we had hoped. No, the riverbanks weren't crowded with crocodiles, neither did we see elephants, hippos, etc. Rev. Sprunger was at the port to meet us and then we were on the last lap of our journey. As we neared the station our hearts began to beat faster and faster. And then we saw the roof tops of Mukedi! In a few minutes we were actually driving onto the station!

The missionaries were there to welcome us and soon after several hundred school children marched down the road singing songs of welcome. They stopped before us and saluted. Our hearts were stirred anew. We were now in the land and with the people with whom we were to work.

We need your prayers as we begin the language study and take up the work to which the Lord has called us, which in the end is the winning of souls.

In His Service,
Larry and Alvera Remple.

"I NEED A BODY!"

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies A LIVING SACRIFICE, holy, acceptable unto God." Romans 12:1.

"I need a body for My use,—
Wilt thou not lend Me thine?
Surrender it to Me and I
Will every part refine!
I'll touch the heart of it with love:
Love for the heathen lost.
Love that will give and **Give,**—and **GIVE**
And never count the cost!"

"I need a body for My use,—
In it,—I'll cross the sea:
Its tongue My Gospel shall declare,—
The 'Truth' that makes men free!
With My Divine compassion I
Shall such great unction give
That darkened souls the 'Light' shall see,
The 'dead in sins'—shall **Live!"**

"I need a body for My use,—
With nurse—or doctor's skill:
Someone who loves enough to care
For the 'unlovely' ill!
Trained hands I'll need to bind sore wounds:
Kind hearts with love athrill:
Ready to help the helpless ones
And quick to do My will!"

"I need a body for My use,—
Wilt thou not lend Me thine?
A 'living sacrifice' I ask,
That I with power Divine
Might claim it as My very own
And use it,—as I will:
Eternal blessings are assured,—
Your cup of joy I'll fill."

C. B. Bowser

"IF I WERE A PASTOR"
The Missionary Program of the Church*
By Ralph T. Davis, used by permission of Rev. Davis.

In beginning this series of reflections under the title, "If I Were a Pastor," I am fulfilling a long-standing desire to put these thoughts into print, for it is my conviction that the pastor is the key to the work and success of missions. These articles are the outcome of several years of ministry both on the field and at the home end of the Mission's work, and for a brief time in the assistant pastorate of a missionary-minded church at home. The conclusions are my personal thoughts and do not necessarily represent the thinking of my fellow-workers in the Mission or out of it. Let the reading pastor consider these suggestions with a sincere and open mind.

If I were a pastor, the very nature of my calling would place me in a position of leadership and I would be forced to realize that I could lead others no higher than I would go myself. My conduct would be all-important, and because conduct is dependent upon straight thinking, my thoughts and beliefs in every realm of my influence would be important. Thus my attitude toward missions would demand very careful thought.

The Word of God must be my first guide into correct missionary thinking. If I approach the Word with a sincere and open heart, I do not have to go far before I find that God loved the world. His field of operation is the world, and He bade us go into all the world. Christ's very last word showed the scope of all true missionary endeavor: "Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem [at our door], and in all Judaea [farther afield, say in our state], and in Samaria [still farther, all the United States or our continent], and unto the uttermost part of the earth [in countires abroad]."

Incidentally, the areas mentioned in Acts 1:8 are connected by "and," not "or." This is very significant. The division of home and foreign missions is man-made, not God-ordained. Therefore, as a pastor, I must conclude that my concept of and interest in missions is to embrace every soul on earth. If, when God loved the world, He had left me out, I would not be saved today. If I leave someone else out, he may be lost forever. The reaching of souls in my immediate environs cannot be termed 'my own work," while the reaching of souls in a foreign country is designated as an "outside interest." Both are one vital responsibility which the church and I must carry together.

After my concept of the scope and purpose of missions is established from the Word, I would seek council from the best authoritative sources regarding the active part I am to have in carrying out my missionary responsibility. When I am ill, I go to a doctor. When I am sued, I seek a lawyer. When I cannot spell, I go to the dictionary. Yet there are many, I fear, who are willing to accept council on missionary matters from almost anyone rather than from the man at the top.

When a battle is on, it is the chiefs of staff who meet and plat the strategy to be used, yet in mission affairs many are willing to consult with buck privates, or even conscripts, as it were. I would not dare to do this. If I were a pastor, I would be satisfied at no stage of my experience and in no realm of my ministry with anything less than the very best.

If I were a pastor and considering the missionary program as it is carried out in my church, I would take into consideration the fact that if it is to fulfill its purpose it should have on objective. The soldier in battle who would fire his rifle aimlessly soon would be reprimanded or killed. I am not foolish in most pursuits, and I do not go to the railroad station and ask the agent for a ticket promiscuously. If he should say, "Where to?" surely I would not answer, "Anywhere, it doesn't matter."

I must spend considerable time asking myself, "Am I progressing or merely beating the air?" I would feel that the great objective would be to get all the members to share in the program and especially to hope to see some of the church young people leave for fields abroad as missionaries.

Because of the place which some of the young people may fill in the "uttermost part" of the world field, I would endeavor to arrange the missionary program to suit all ages. The more inclusive the program can

(*Continued on page* 14)

MINUTE MEDITATIONS

Must the heathen abroad wait to her the gospel until the heathen at home become willing to hear it?

* * *

The years between 10 and 20 are usually the testing ground for how well parents have succeeded in teaching the family in childhood.

* * *

It is not enough to do the right thing. It must be done in the right way, at the right time and in the right place.

* * *

The process of "growing up" is essentially one of exchanging outer, for inner control.

* * *

If you will keep "telling yourself" others won't need to tell you so often.

* * *

"I hope I shall always possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of 'an honest man.'" (George Washington)

* * *

The language of Truth is unadorned and always simple.

* * *

Children sometimes wonder why daddy never gets spanked. If daddy is "really grown up," he spanks himself, therefore no need for others to do it.

* * *

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." I John 1:8.

* * *

"Whoso keepeth his mouth and tongue, keepeth his soul from trouble." Proverbs 21:23.

* * *

A child usually interprets life from the daily pattern in his home.

* * *

When we make mistakes we pay for them.

* * *

Have we decided that a real spiritual reviving begins in the church or in the home and we then take it to church with us?

* * *

Have you determined that your very best must be better?

Over every mountain there is a path, that cannot be seen from the valley.

* * *

Life is either an open road or a dead end. What is it to you?

* * *

A friend is one who can put his finger on your faults and not rub it in.

* * *

The time you need to watch more closely is when you know no one is watching you.

* * *

The main sermon of our life, must be illustrated by all our conduct.

* * *

It seems easier to spend money than to spend more of ourselves.

* * *

Eventually a liar gets caught in his own lies.

* * *

If we do not want to die together in war, then let us spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, so we may live together in peace.

* * *

No one goes to hell for rejecting Jesus Christ, we go there because we do not accept Him.

* * *

Think much, pray more, but let your words be few.

* * *

It would be far better not to have been born, than not to be "born again."

* * *

He who is too busy to pray, is too barren to serve.

* * *

Many of the greatest sermons are not preached in the sanctuary but at the kitchen sink. "Is it well with thee, mother?"

* * *

One sin in the life of the father may result in an avalanche of harm and sin, to and in the children, unto the 3rd and 4th generation.

* * *

If you propose to keep your promises, you had better not make too many.

* * *

Every tomorrow has two handles, faith and worry; which one have you hold of?

BIRTHDAY DATES

CONGO M

MUKEDI

Rev. Vernon Sprunger.....June 3, 1904, General Committee
Mrs. Vernon Sprunger.....January 1, 1907, General Mennonite
Charles Sprunger.....December 2, 1932, General Mennonite
Wilmer Sprunger.....June 13, 1935
Jeannette Rose Sprunger.....May 11, 1940
Shirley Mae Sprunger.....November 1, 1945
Dr. Merle H. Schwartz.....December 14, 1910, Central Mennonite
Mrs. Merle H. Schwartz.....May 30, 1918, Central Mennonite
Judith Ann Schwartz.....May 11, 1945
Robert Merle Schwartz.....October 16, 1946
Miss Agnes Sprunger.....September 25, 1885, Missionary Church Association
Miss Erma Birky.....July 16, 1894, Central Mennonite
Miss Agnes Lutke.....May 31, 1915, Evangelical Mennonite Brethren
Rev. Lawrence Remple.....May 31, 1923, Evangelical Mennonite Brethren
Mrs. Lawrence Remple.....January 30, 1921, Evangelical Mennonite Brethren
Beverly Ann Remple.....April 21, 1946
Rev. James Bertsche.....June 20, 1921, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Mrs. James Bertsche.....October 21, 1921, Evangelical Mennonite Church

MUTENA

Rev. George B. Neufeld.....February 12, 1905, General Mennonite
Mrs. George B. Neufeld.....June 10, 1908, General Mennonite
Miss Mable Sauder.....August 8, 1905, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Miss Lois Slagle, R.N.....November 25, 1913, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Miss Lodema Short.....February 23, 1916, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Rev. Elmer J. Dick.....March 26, 1916, General Mennonite
Mrs. Elmer J. Dick.....August 25, 1915, General Mennonite
Laverna Joyce Dick.....July 8, 1945
Doretta Ann Dick.....February 23, 1947

ON FURLOUGH

Mrs. Emma Moser.....September 18, 1893, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Miss Fanny Schmallenberger.....March 8, 1906, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Mrs. Frank J. Enns.....March 24, 1897, General Mennonite
Norma Ruth Enns.....September 28, 1932, General Mennonite

RETIRED

Rev. John P. Barkman.....January 27, 1881, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Mrs. John P. Barkman.....January 4, 1883, Evangelical Mennonite Church

SIONARIES

CONFERENCE AFFILIATIONS

CHARLESVILLE

Rev. A. D. Graber.....February 6, 1901, Central Mennonite
Rev. Russell F. Schnell.....June 8, 1907, Central Mennonite
Mrs. Russell F. Schnell.....August 4, 1908, Central Mennonite
Carolyn Rose Schnell.....October 30, 1935, Central Mennonnite
Marilyn Ruth Schnell.....May 20, 1943
Evelyn Schnell.....December 3, 1944
Russell Melvin Schnell.....September 21, 1948
Rev. Roy O. Yoder.....September 22, 1901, Central Mennonite
Mrs. Roy O. Yoder.....June 17, 1907, Central Mennonite
Jonathan King Yoder.....July 25, 1939
Rev. Glen E. Rocke.....September 7, 1916, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Mrs. Glen E. Rocke.....June 27, 1915, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Leland Emanuel Rocke.....January 13, 1944
Darrel Edward Rocke.....December 10, 1945
David Glen Rocke.....October 10, 1948
Miss Agnetha Friesen.....July 5, 1910, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Miss Frieda M. Guengerich.....May 29, 1913, Central Mennonite
Miss Anna V. Liechty.....November 19, 1915, General Mennonite
Miss Erma Beitler, R.N.....January 5, 1916, Evangelical Mennonite Church

NYANGA

Rev. Frank J. Enns.....January 27, 1895, General Mennonite
Rev. Henry A. Toews.....November 22, 1900, General Mennonite
Mrs. Henry A. Toews.....January 29, 1904, General Mennonite
Henry Paul Toews.....Febrauary 10, 1932
Carol Jean Toews.....July 7, 1934
Miss Kornelia Unrau.....February 10, 1897, Evangelical Mennonite Church
Miss Anna H. Quiring.....March 30, 1906, General Mennonite
Miss Selma Unrau.....October 28, 1913, General Mennonite

BELGIUM FOR STUDY

Rev. John B. Jantzen.....November 17, 1914, General Mennonite
Mrs. John B. Jantzen.....February 1, 1918, General Mennonite
Evelyn Ann Jantzen.....January 15, 1949

UNDER APPOINTMENT

Rev. Levi Keidel.....January 18, 1927, General Mennonite
Mrs. Levi Keidel.....February 9, 1921, General Mennonite
Rev. Samuel Entz.....May 21, 1919, General Mennonite
Mrs. Samuel Entz.....June 3, 1917, General Mennonite

IF I WERE A PASTOR

(*Continued from page* 10)

be, the more full-orbed will be the result.

I do not like to emphasize a division of missionary activity, yet there is a sense in which all may pray, many may give, and some may go. In the church there must be a presentation to all so that each may find his place in God's missionary program. The objective must be for all, no matter how old or how young or what potentialities they hold, to say, 'Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

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* First in a series of six articles dealing with the missionary activity of the pastor and his people.

WANTED—A WORKER

God never goes to the lazy or the idle when He needs men for His service. When God wants a worker, He calls a worker. When he has work to be done, He goes to those who are already at work. When God wants a great servant, He calls a busy man. Scripture and history attest this truth.

Moses was busy with his flock at Horeb.

Gideon was busy threshing wheat by the wine-press.

Saul was busy searching for his father's lost beasts.

David was busy caring for his father's sheep.

Elisha was busy plowing with twelve yoke of oxen.

Nehemiah was busy bearing the king's wine cup.

Amos was busy following the flock.

Peter and Andrew were busy casting a net into the sea.

James and John were busy mending their nets.

Matthew was busy collecting customs.

Saul was busy persecuting the friends of Jesus.

William Carey was busy mending and making shoes.—**Unknown.**

Some people who would never think of quarreling or having a "spat," continue to be "brutally" polite to each other.

* * *

There is something far better than patient endurance.

THANK GOD FOR MISSIONARIES

Thank God for missionaries, who have laid their hearts, their highest hopes, and their brightest talents at His feet. We find them placing their lives at the point of greatest need, just where the Savior would have them placed.

In every land we find them:
In the wayside inns,
In tht wayside inns,
On the roads,
In the frozen huts of the North,
In the tents of the desert,
On the river boats,
In the camps of refugees.

We find them working among the children, the blind, the lepers, the needy, the rich, the rulers, the mighty, the slaves.

We find them laboriously translating the Gospel into other languages and painstakingly reducing to writing many heathen dialects.

We find them taking the healing, saving, uplifting, integrating resources of God into every human life they touch in the critical hour of dark menaces and of unprecedented opportunities.

Throughout the whole world we find them:

In Africa where the black man, our brother, is now emerging from the darkness of ignorance, fear and oppression.

In China where the yellow man, our brother, is facing problems of ignorance, of invasion, of adjustment, of floods and of poverty.

In teeming India where men of various religions, our brothers, are suffering from famine, from the evils of caste, and from disease.

In South America where the opposition is very great, the struggle keen, and the poor natives, our brothers, are ill of body and sick of soul from bearing the woes of a life without Christ.

In our land among the Indians, our brothers, who deserve kind treatment from the white man.

Wherever Christ Himself would go to serve mankind, there we find missionaries.

Thank God for real missionaries.

Congo SPEAKS:

By Russell F. Schnell

Easter Sunday morning we tried out the new P. A. system and instead of ringing the first bell, we played a few records and told the people to come to church. You should have seen them running down the road to the church. Easter Sunday night we told them to stay in their villages, sit around their camp-fires or in front of their houses and listen to a service which would be broadcasted that night. Whenever we would say Muoyo wenu, their greeting, you could hear a big shout in the village in response to it. We had various phonograph records, organ music, guitar music and singing of various combinations, also testimonies by the leaders of the church emphasizing, "What Christ means to me." With the two big speakers in the belfry, the sound carries a long way and many of the villages round about were very glad for the service. It also reached many Catholics and other unsaved who never darken the church door. Last night we had another broadcast from the church and it sounded beautiful. The first message given by one of the deacons was on "The Way of Salvation," The second message was given by another deacon to the Christians on "The Consecrated Life." We also had plenty of instrumental as well as vocal music. The natives are looking forward very much to these services and we believe they will bring forth fruit.

While working on the veranda Saturday morning, one of the school teachers came in see me, looking very distressed in mind. He motioned that he would like to have a piece of paper and pencil, and appeared that he could not speak. After giving him a pencil and paper he wrote out the following message. "I am not sick. God has sent me to you to buy a Bible and for me to give it to a certain clerk who has charge of a store about twenty miles from here. If I do not do this, He will strike me dumb for good, therefore, I am obeying his word and buying a Bible for this clerk in the name of God who has sent me." He paid for the Bible and as soon as he got it, he grunted as clearing his throat and thanked us over and over again for selling it to him at that time that he could do as the Lord had told him. He said, when the Lord first spoke to him to give that Bible to the clerk, he begrudged the fact of taking one half dollar from his hard-earned savings but he had no peace until he was willing to make this sacrifice. This amount was a week's wage for him. Today he was not in school, and no doubt was trying to lead that clerk to Christ. Probably this is a lesson to all of us. That is to be willing with joy to give the Light of those sitting in darkness and not to be compelled by strong admonition. What an example. Here is a young Christian willing to give up a week's wage that one unsaved person will have a Bible and know Christ as his Saviour. Are we who are living in the land of plenty and peace willing to make a similar gift that many others out here may hear the Gospel message and have that PEACE THAT PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING?

Yours in His glad service,

R. F. Schnell and Family.

"May the love of Jesus fill me,
As the waters fill the sea.
His exalting, self abasing,
This is victory.

"May His beauty rest upon me,
As I seek the lost to win;
And may they forget the channel,
Seeing only Him."

MUTENA GRAMS

By Lois Slagle, R.N.

One Paragraph Hymn Stories

To aid in creating a better interest in our Young People's Meetings on Sunday afternoons, we have made an attempt to vary the type of program. One Sunday we built the program around the theme of three well-known hymns which the Africans use frequently in their services here. The stories of how these hymns came to be written were translated and given to three young men. They were instructed to study the stories and then relate the facts in their own words, to the audience. There were many questions relative to the stories. Were they to read it first to the audience and then tell it to them in their own words, one inquired. Another suggested the advisibality of relating only one paragraph, for he felt the entire story was too long.

We had thought that every thing had been fully explained and that all the questions had been answered. However, during the course of the service, it became evident that theirs was a new way of relating hymn stories. The first speaker arose, and after an introduction related very well the first paragraph of the story. We were satisfied that they had grasped the idea, when suddenly the speaker stopped in the middle of the story and began to sermonize and express his thoughts relative to the message of the song. He never did complete the narration of how the hymn came to be written. The second and third speaker did likewise. Not one completed his story. We came away from the service wondering just what the whole thing had meant to the Africans. To our surprise, there were a number of favorable comments on the one-paragraph hymn stories. Several requested another service of this type. However, before we attempt a service of this kind again, additional instructions will be given.

An Air-port Service

Laws governing the Forminiere Diamond Mines in our territory have prohibited the missionary from entering the camps for the purpose of conducting religious services. This necessitated having services a distance from the camp. This year as Rev. Dick was making his itinerary in the vicinity of Tshikapa, the proper white authorities were consulted relative to a place to conduct the services for the benefit of those who were working in Tshikapa. They appeared to be very sympathetic to his request and granted him the permission to conduct the meeting in the modern, tropically designed building of the Sabena Airways. This was a very kind gesture on the part of the authorities. Word was quickly circulated among the Africans concerning the service and at the appointed hour a large group had assembled. The interior of the building was too small to house the crowd which had come, but the cement pavement in front of the building proved to be an ideal place for worship. Again God has gone before and opened the door that His Word might go forth.

An African Mother's Heartache

The rain had stopped, but it still was very cool. Shortly before the service with the African Committee came to a close at nine that evening, I was called to the maternity ward. A young mother had given birth to a premature infant about four hours previously on the path. Since its birth, she had been on her way to the hospital here. They lived some distance from the station. She was hoping that we would be able to save the little one's life. However, after having spent the first four hour of its life in the cold night air, without the protection of any clothing, the prospects for its survival were not good. The infant's respiration was very difficult. It was immediately placed in a basket, which had been heated with hot water bottles. However, at 2 A.M. the little life flickered out. The mother insisted that she must return home with the dead baby at once. We tried to persuade her to at least wait until daybreak, but she declared that she must go without delay. This was the reason she gave for her insistence. She told us that her husband would be very angry when he learned that this baby died. He had another wife but he had never had any children. Now that this child did not survive, he would be in a rage. The mother reasoned, that if he had not received any word as to the child's condition before morning, he would set out for Mutena. If she should meet him in the path with the dead child, he would most certainly beat her and she feared, even kill

her in his fury. If she reached the village before he left, the other men would not permit him to beat her so unmercifully. What could we do, but permit her to go? Besides the heartache of a dead child she had to fear the unjust wrath of a husband. A few weeks later when she visited the dispensary, she told us that she had reached the village in time, but she had received the anticipated beating.

A Happy Surprise

Our conference reports had been wirtten, and we were on our way to the Neufelds for a station meeting. There we were to read our reports to each other, and the necessary corrections were to be made. Just as we were locking our door a car drove in. We supposed that it was either some of the Forminiere officials who occasionally pay us a call—or a government official. However, across the compound we could hear the voices of English speaking people. We concluded that our guests must be missionaries. Presently, through the darkness, we saw two people making their way toward our house. Great was our surprise and joy when we learned that Lodema had returned from Lubondai about ten days before we had expected her. An epidemic at the school necessitates the termination of the semester at this earlier date. We were happy to have her back with us on the Mutena Station.

THAT'S MY PRAYER

There was a poor Hottentot in South Africa, who, working for a Godfearing Hollander, was daily present at the reading of God's Word and prayer. One day Luke 18 was in order to be read—the parable of the Pharisee and the publican. The Hollander read:

"Two men went up into the temple to pray."

The poor heathen, in whose heart the Spirit of God had been active, hearkened.

"Perhaps," he whispered to himself, "perhaps, I may now learn to pray."

The Hollander did not understand him, so read on:

"God, I thank Thee that I am not as other men." Here the poor man whispered:

"This is not me, this is not me, I can't pray like that; I am worse than everybody else." The reader went on:

"I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess."

"I don't do that, I can't pay like that! Oh, what shall I do?" Thus the unhappy man talked with himself.

After this followed the description of the publican's attitude and prayer, who, "standing afar off,"—

"That's me," said the Hottentot audibly, "that's where I stand!"—"would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven," continued the Hollander.

"That's me again," said the poor heathen. The former read on,

"But smote upon the breast, saying, God be merciful to me, a sinner!"

Here the deeply touched African could contain no longer but cried in a loud voice:

"That is me, and that is my prayer!"

Then and there he smote his black breast and cried in the anguish of his soul,

"Yes, God be merciful to me, a sinner!"

His anguish of soul, and his cry for mercy were not in vain. He found peace in believing, he had the forgiveness of sins and eternal life—God's free gifts to those who honor His Son. One old man said once:

"I daily pray the publican's prayer." But the publican prayed it only once, and went away justified; the poor African prayed it once, and once only from the almost immediate answer from "God who is rich in mercy," and Who delights to show mercy.

My dear reader, how is it with you? You might say daily with your lips, like a parrot:

"God be merciful to me a sinner," and find no relief, or you might say it once from a heart filled and burdened and heavy laden, with a sense of our sins and guilt, and find the rest He has promised to all who so come to Him.

"Whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

—"Echoes of Grace."

"IF I WERE A PASTOR"

The Missionary Committee of the Church*

By Ralph T. Davis

If I were a pastor and believed, as I do, that the true missionary program of any church must include all members and be directed to all ages, I would see that the missionary committee of the church included representatives of each age group. The committee should be charged with everything pertaining to the missionary program.

Unlike any other church organization, the missionary committee covers the work of the church as a unit. Each member of the church will find his place in the missionary program in some way or another, and surely there is a desire that all may contribute in a small or large degree. If I were a pastor, I would realize that the small gift may seem to its donor far more important and of greater value than the large gift to the contributor who is able to give it. Thus all should be represented in the committee which makes the decisions regarding the use of the gifts.

If all who give to missions were represented on the missionary committee, it would help to solve many of the difficulties encountered in this realm. A child will not donate first his pennies, then his dimes, then quarters, and later in adulthood his dollars without at some time having questions regarding their use. Lack of a voice in the expenditure of the missionary dollar is the cause for much seepage in missionary giving in the church. This must be avoided. Preachment is not the remedy. A recognition of rights by representation is.

If I were a pastor, I would endeavor to keep myself out of the actual direction of the committee. The chairman and secretary should come from the ranks of the committee, and at least at first, I would endeavor to secure those who are the most talented for such offices. Whereas the benevolence committee may disburse missionary money, disbursements should be made only upon instruction from the missionary committee.

No activity in missions in the church should be carried on without the approval of the missionary committee, because it is the committees duty not only to further missionary interest, but also to protect it. Accordingly, members of this committee should protect the church's missionary program as well as study fields and works, missionary principles and practices and trends in order to foster and further missionary endeavor.

Only that which is genuine and stable in missionary activities should be permitted representation in the church, while counterfeits are to be avoided. The man in the pew rarely is able to make the distinction, but an alert missionary committee can and should do so.

The committee would improve its efficiency and knowledge by periodically inviting missionary leaders to meet with them in a workshop session. If, in the course of a year, this were done a half dozen times, it would afford a missionary education to those who should know more about missions than can be acquired through public addresses given at missionary conferences. Under such circumstances, the director of a missionary society would bring out facts that he would not dare to discuss unasked and which would be unethical for him to reveal in public.

At these sessions the missionary leader could be quizzed regarding missionary work in general, his field in particular, and very specially about his own society. The discussion would reveal similarities and differences in various missionary societies and the reason for them.

The time of meetings for the missionary committee would be arranged according to local requirements, but any committee must meet regularly to function satisfactorily. Regularity is important.

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*Second in a series of six articles on the missionary activity of the pastor and his people.

DECLINING DEMOTION

A well-known missionary to Turkey was offered a consulship in one of the chief Turkish cities at a princely salary. "Why in the world did you not accept such a chance?" asked a young man in amazement. "Well," was the quiet reply, "I declined to step down from an ambassadorship to a consulship."

ITINERARY TO TSHIKAPA

Dear Co-workers in Him,

Greetings in Jesus' name.

Our itinerary to Tshikapa might interest you. We met in an open field because we had no Chapel. Christians gathered to sing and worship and we had a blessed fellowship together. A new teacher was publicly installed. Later the clouds gathered and it began to rain. Many natives got wet but four of us crowded in the pick-up to keep dry.

Then we left and started towards Luebo and had our baptismal and communion services. We had the happy privilege of building a chapel in two days. The night previous we called the men and women together and laid out the plans. They were anxious for a house in which to worship so they came the next day "with a mind to work." The church was made of mud and sticks with a grass roof. We used only two nails, and those in the pulpit. At four o'clock in the afternoon the chapel was dedicated to the Lord. They still needed seats and a fence to keep the goats away. The people here are very primitive,—adults wear very little clothing and the children wear none. The following day was to be a wedding. That is always a happy time because there would be good meat to eat. At noon I married the couple but the lady was so disappointed because the shoes she expected did not arrive in time. This may have been the only time she wore shoes, but she did want some now so she wore men's socks and men's shoes. You might have thought she had the "new look" but no one laughed and the ceremony was performed in all seriousness.

On March 1 we visited Tshikapa schools. We covet your prayers for the work here. When God is in the program who can go against Him? The Tshikapa papers are yet held up. We believe the Catholics are definitely working against us but God has seen us through so many times, we know He will not fail us now. His be the praise and glory for all victories won.

We were able to get an engine for our shingle machine. (Our 1928 Ford gave out). It was an old discarded German locomotive that looked like a piece of junk but it works. Some of our roofs are not yet repaired and we are so thankful for this machine because it does save us considerable money. A roof 16 by 32, without lath or rafters ordinarily costs $200 here in Congo.

The Conference at Leopoldville, February 17-27 was a fruitful one but had big problems to settle too. It is true in Africa as it is in America—"When the children are small they make our arms ache but when they get big they make our hearts ache." In the beginning of 1949 there were 6000 Christians in Charlesville alone. When we first came there there were 100 in our school and now there are over 900 and Satan is so busy trying to mislead those who do have a desire to serve the Lord. Then too it is a big job to satisfy the State in our educational program. They put such heavy demands upon our teachers that they have not time enough to teach the Word as they feel it should be taught. But God knows all that and He never asks the impossible. Continue to pray WITH us and FOR us. We often pray for you.

Again we thank all you dear ones at home for your labors of love and may God's choice blessings be your portion for He alone can reward you.

Yours because of Calvary,

Archie D. Graber.

A BUSINESS MAN'S PRAYER

Lord, prosper my affairs this day;
Take care of all I have at risk.
Give the means to pay my way,
And, if Thou wilt, make business brisk.
Help me in all my dealings, Lord,
Whate'er befall; Thou knowest well
Without Thee I could ill afford
To buy or borrow, lend or sell.
Oh! make me humble in success;
In failure make me strong to bear;
Lead me in ways of righteousness;
To friend and rival make me fair.
Uphold me in the common strife;
Give me the grace to work and plan;
And, in the market-place of Life,
Oh! keep me, Lord, an honest man.

—Author Unknown.

His Will for Me

"Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6)

By Henry Warner of the West Indies Mission

Perhaps no other question gives greater concern to the thoughtful, earnest Christian than this: "How can I know God's will for my life?" I well remember how this important question was uppermost in my own thoughts during the years of training at Bible Institute, and I am sure that it must be prominent in your thoughts, unless, of course, you are just "filling in" here at school and are unconcerned about the real issue of your existence. Any Christian with the least spark of spiritual life, however, must be concerned about God's will and work for his or her life.

Let me say, first of all, that there is a need to discriminate between the **general** and the **particular** will of God. There is a difference —a great difference — between these two things. Recall the words of the servant of Abraham as recorded in Genesis 24:27: "I being in the way, the Lord led me." Note here the distinction: "Being in the way"—His **general** will; "the Lord led me"—His **particular** will. Hence, you will need to keep this difference well in mind. Do not confuse the two. It is commonly done by so many Christians. You will never **know** the particular will of God for your life unless you first **accept** His general will. And let me say that God's general will for every Christian is the same and has already been revealed and made clear in His Word.

His General Will

What is the general will of God for every believer? This may be the question now in your mind. I shall tell you plainly. **The general will of God for every believer is Missions. Yes, Missions.** The Word of God is very clear on this point. The work and program of Missions occupy a vital place in the Word. The Bible from cover to cover is a missionary book. From the very beginning the Lord indicated a world-wide design for His people. Diffusion of the Gospel has ever been His thought. Someone has said, "Strange indeed, then, yet true, that the history of men has been one long, persistent effort, either ignorantly or wilfully, to evade or thwart this purpose." What purpose? Missions. Yes, indications of the world-wide reach of God's purpose, and examples of missionary spirit and effort, are found in the Word of God from the first book, Genesis, to the last book, Revelation. The missionary and spirit pervade the whole. The last command of Christ was "Go ye!" And in obedience to that command the early Christian Church "went everywhere." Missions! Missions! Missions is the general will of God for every believer in every land.

Why is it, then, that half of all living souls have never heard this Good News of salvation? Why is it that the world has not yet been evangelized? Why is it that we are so slow to complete the task which has been given us to do? I will tell you the reason. It is because, for the most part, we do not believe in our heart of hearts that Missions and the missionary program constitute **the general will of God for every child of God.** That is the reason.

His Particular Will

Let us proceed to our next point, namely, a consideration of the particular will of God. His general will is already revealed through His Word. His particular will for the life must be made known by Him to each person **individually.** If a Christian has **obeyed** as to the first, he will **know** the second. If you have accepted and embraced the general will of God for your life, then He will surely reveal His particular will for you if you are earnestly desirous to know the same. Once you have become a Missionary-Christian, God will assign to you your particular work. Being a missionary (and we are not thinking of geographical location now) is His general will. Doing a particular and individual work in this vital and great missionary program (and now we are thinking of geographical location) is His particular will. God's general will is the **same** for all believers. His particular will, however, is **different** for every individual.

Hence, the going to the foreign field does not **make** you a missionary. but merely assigns you a job to do. Going to India, China, Africa, or the islands of the sea, is His particular will for the one who thus goes. Every Christian, therefore, who does **not** go in per-

son to some foreign field to serve Christ, ought to be just as much a missionary, ought to be just as missionary-hearted, as the one who **does** go. Once a believer has accepted and embraced God's general will, namely, Missions, then the next logical step is to proceed to ascertain God's particular job for his life. The important thing for every Christian is to find out **where** the Lord would have him or her serve. "Where, Lord, would Thou have me serve Thee?" That is the question. Each Christian needs to earnestly seek for the answer to that question. "Lord is it India, or Africa, or Canada? Where, Lord? Where?"

Why is it that young people (and older ones, too) who do not go to the foreign mission field, very often sink to a lower standard of spirituality than those who **do** go? What is the reason? One of two things has happened. Either the person has not gone through with God as to His general will, or has never sincerely sought the answer to the question, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" Yes, if you have been obedient in regard to God's general will for your life it will not be difficult for you to learn His particular will.

Let us say, for example, that He has made known that His particular will for you is the farm. Then you will be a Missionary-Farmer. "Missionary"—His **general** will; "Farmer"—His **particular** will. As a Missionary-Farmer, or Missionary-Businessman, you can be just as much in the will of God as the person who goes to China, Africa, India, to serve Christ. It will not be just a matter of giving your tenth for the Lord's work, but **you will give your all** for the spreading of the Gospel to the ends of the earth. You will live for Missions. You will farm your land, operate your business, teach your school for Missions. You will be absorbed one-hundred-per cent in the cause of Missions. As one young lady, a graduate of this Institute, recently said concerning her parents and her home here on the Canadian prairies: "We ate Missions, dreamed Missions, talked Missions, studied Missions, prayed for Missions, and gave to Missions. Little wonder that I set my face toward the foreign field."

Yes, something is going to happen when you take this matter to heart and Missions become the all-consuming passion of your very life and existence. That is what I mean by being a Missionary-Farmer, or a Missionary-Businessman. I am not talking about an ordinary farmer and an ordinary businessman, but a Missionary-Farmer and a Missionary-Businessman. There is a vast difference. Do you see it? They are as different as day and night.

An Illustration

Permit me to mention one illustration. A dear Christian farmer friend of mine in the River country was one day walking through his pasture in search of his milch cows. As he walked along in the stillness of the evening he suddenly experienced an overwhelming sense of the presence of God and a call upon his life to be a missionary. It seemed such a **definite** call to service that he was overjoyed. Rushing back to the farmhouse he hastened to tell his wife about his purpose of heart. "God has called me to be a missionary," he said as he entered the room. Thereupon he and his wife sat down in the little kitchen to talk over the matter.

After thoroughly discussing the question of missionary service for the Lord they both came to a sane and settled conclusion that the call had been not so much a call to **go** to a foreign field as it was a call to **become** a missionary—a Missionary-Farmer. The husband was no longer young in years and it was evident that no missionary society would accept him for service. Furthermore, he was suffering from tuberculosis and his health was poor. There were four children in the family. How could such a candidate be considered for the foreign mission field? "We shall stay in the Peace River and use our land to farm for Missions," was the decision. Today, one-third of the income from that little farm goes to Missions. "And this is just the beginning," he told me joyfully one day recently when I visited the home.

That Christian brother with his wife, family of four little ones, and a quarter section of land will never see the foreign field, but **he has learned God's particular will for his life.** The general call of Missions came to him as he walked in the pasture. He was not disobedient to the heavenly vision. He there and then became a missionary. The particular will of God came as he and his wife

quietly talked and prayed the situation through in the farmhouse kitchen. He there became a Missionary-Farmer. He found God's particular will for his life. And, with what result? His life is full of joy and peace, and the blessing of his willing obedience is now flowing out to the ends of the earth.

Why is it that so many Christian young people are tossed to and fro concerning the matter of service for Christ? Why is it that so many believers are never settled in their minds as to God's particular will for their lives? I know the reason. **It is because they have never yet accepted His general will and purpose—Missions.** It may sound strange but it is true nevertheless. **Go through with the Lord as to His general will and you will have no difficulty in learning His particular will for your life.**

Trying the Doors

You say, "But I have already embraced God's general will for my life. The cause of Missions is the centre and circumference of my life. I am a missionary at heart. I felt called to Africa. But I have tried the door to Africa and the door remains closed. God does not want me in the foreign field. I give up."

Ah, young person, do not give up so easily. Never give up. Keep trying. Keep on trying. Try another door. Someone has said, "The way to get an open door is to lean against a closed door and push." That's it—push upon that closed door. Try—push. Keep trying different doors until one opens. Keep moving. Remember it is easier to guide a moving object than one which is stationary. A ship in motion is not difficult to steer.

The missionary Paul was one who believed in trying all the doors of service. Read Acts 16:6-11. "Now when they had gone throughout Phyrgia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia, After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not. And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them. Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis."

It was easy for God to guide Paul because he was constantly "on the move" in relation to the work of the Lord. He did not lose heart after trying one door, or two doors, or even more than two. Once he had embraced God's general will for his life he was certain that he would be guided into a definite service.

Take my own case as an example. There came a time in my Christian experience when I felt a deep sense of the Lord's call upon my life for missionary service. Then I began to try the doors to a number of foreign fields. Although no longer young in years I was determined to try every door until one opened. I was turned down by a number of societies. Finally, the door opened for the West Indies. And, strange to say, I reached the West Indies, after first being thrust into South America. Yes, I believe that the West Indies is His particular will for me. It is His place for me—His perfect will for me.

And so my advice to you (from experience) is to keep trying the doors. Do not become discouraged. Let each one of us earnestly seek a place in His vineyard. "Where, Lord, where?" "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" God grant that we may not be unwise, but understanding what His will is.

IN CHRIST I HAVE—

1. Love that can never be fathomed.
2. Life that can never die.
3. Righteousness that can never be tarnished.
4. Peace that cannot be understood.
5. Rest that can never be disturbed.
6. Joy that can never be diminished.
7. Hope that can never be disappointed.
8. Glory that can never be clouded.
9. Happiness that can never be disrupted.
10. Strength that can never be enfeebled.
11. Purity that can never be defiled.
12. Beauty that can never be marred.
13. Wisdom that can never be baffled.
14. Resources that can never be exhausted.

—The Brethren Missionary Herald.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts for months of February and March, 1949. From Central, E.M.C., E.M.B., and General Mennonite Conferences:

Central—

Missionary Allowance	$ 954.09
Evangelistic	103.00
Educational	77.09
Medical	262.00
Clothing	200.00
Passage	184.76
General	1791.82
C. I. M. History	1.25
Special:	
School for Carolyn Schnell	450.00
Bashilele Project	1000.00
New Station (Tshikapa)	500.00
Total Central	$5524.01

E. M. C.—

Missionary Allowance	$1980.00
Evangelistic	73.75
Medical	150.00
Clothing	10.00
General	4519.32
Bashilele	300.00
Special:	
New Station (Tshikapa)	725.00
Medical Equipment	50.00
Missionary Retirement	25.00
Henry Moser Memorial	60.00
Dominican Republic	1250.01
Special Project	300.00
Personal for Miss Lucille D. Rupp	1.00
Total E. M. C.	$9444.08

E. M. B.—

Missionary Allowance	$ 580.72
Operating Budget	261.90
Insurance Premium	95.50
Passage	1000.00
Clothing	100.00
Total E. M. B.	$2038.12

General—

Missionary Allowance	$ 937.03
Operating Budget	424.37
Insurance Premium	151.39
Promotional	1.00
Clothing	80.00
Special:	
Personal for Rev. E. J. Dick	36.30
Personal for Miss Anna V. Liechty	10.00
Personal for Miss Selma Unruh	10.00
Personal for Rev. H. A. Toews	150.00
Personal for Miss Anna H. Quiring	12.52
Total General	$1812.61

Other than Central, E.M.C., E.M.B., and General Mennonite Conferences—

Missionary Allowance	$ 412.50
Evangelistic	56.00
General	25.00
Promotional	2.00
Special:	
Personal for Miss Aganetha Friesen	5.00
Personal for Rev. E. J. Dick	200.00
Total Other Than, etc.	700.50
Total Receipts	$19,519.32

PRAYER

Prayer is the incense of a holy heart,
Rising to God from bruised and broken things
When kindled by the Spirit's burning breath,
And upward borne by faith's ascending wings.

Prayer is the ascending vapour which supplies
The "showers of blessing," and the stream that flows
Through earth's dry places, till, on every side,
"The wilderness shall blossom as the rose."

Prayer is the mightiest force of earth and heaven;
Prayer is the very dynamite of God;
It moves the hand that all things moves, and turns
The living wheels that sweep through earth abroad.

Teach us to pray! Move on our hearts, O Lord,
Till God's own passion all our being move.
Teach us, pray in us, till our prayer shall be
God in us answering to the God above.

—A. B. Simpson.

The Lil' Black Sheep

Po' lil' black sheep dat strayed away,
Done los' in de win' and de rain—
An' de Shepherd He say, "O hirelin',
Go fin' My sheep again."
An' de hirelin' say, "O Shepherd,
Dat sheep am black and bad."
But de Shepherd He smile, like dat lil' black sheep,
Wuz de onliest lamb He had.

And He say, "Hirelin', hasten
Fur de win' an' de rain am col',
An' de lil' black sheep am lonesome
Out dare, so far from de fol',"
But de hirelin' frown: "O Shepherd,
Dat sheep am ol' an' gray!"
But de Shepherd He smile, like dat lil' black sheep,
Wuz fair as de break of day.

And He say, "O hirelin', hasten,
Lo! here is de ninety an' nine,
But dere, way off f'm de sheepfol'
Is dat lil' black sheep of mine!
But de hirelin' frown: "O Shepherd,
De res' of de sheep am here."
But de Shepherd He smile, like dat lil' black sheep,
He hol' it de mostest dear.

An' de Shepherd go out in the darkness
Where de night wuz col' an' bleak
An' dat lil' black sheep, He fin' it,
An' lay it against His cheek.
But de hirelin' frown: "O Shepherd,
Den' bring dat sheep to me!"
But de Shepherd He smile, an' He hel' it close,
An'—dat lil' black sheep—wuz me!

(A Negro version of "The Ninety and Nine.") Anon.

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THE CONGO MISSIONARY MESSENGER

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Field Conference Report

Vol. XIX July-August - 1949 No. 4

THE CONGO INLAND MISSION

A Co-operative Mission in the Belgian Congo

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Rev. Howard G. Nyce	General Mennonite Conference	
Rev. A. E. Kreider	General Mennonite Conference	1951

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STATIONS AND MISSIONARIES

Charlesville
Rev. A. D. Graber
Rev. and Mrs. Roy O. Yoder
Miss Frieda Guengerich
Miss Anna V. Liechty
Rev. and Mrs. Glenn Rocke
Miss Aganetha Friesen
Rev. and Mrs. Russell F. Schnell

Mutena
Miss Mable Sauder
Rev. and Mrs. Elmer Dick
Rev. and Mrs. Geo. B. Neufeld
Miss Lois Slagle, R. N.
Miss Lodema Short

Nyanga
Rev. and Mrs. Henry A. Toews
Miss Anna H. Quiring
Miss Selma Unruh
Rev. Frank J. Enns
Miss Kornelia Unrau

Mukedi
Dr. and Mrs. Merle Schwartz
Rev. and Mrs. Vernon Sprunger
Miss Agnes Sprunger
Miss Erma Birky
Miss Agnes Lutke
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Rempel

Bruxelles, Belgium
Rev. and Mrs. James E. Bertsche
Miss Erma Beitler, R. N.

On Furlough
Miss Fanny Schmallenberger
Mrs. Frank J. Enns
Mrs. Henry Moser

Retired
Rev. and Mrs. John P. Barkman

Recently Accepted
Mr. and Mrs. Levi Keidel
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Entz
Rev. and Mrs. John B. Jantzen

Address of mission and all missionaries except Mukedi Station and Mutena Station.

Charlesville, Kasai District, Congo Belge, Africa.

Cable address **Conin, Charlevsille, Congo Belge.**

Mukedi Station Address: **Mukedi, par Kikwit, District, du Kwango, Congo Belge, Africa.**

Mutena, via Tshikapa, Kasai Dist., Congo Belge, Africa.

The above missionaries represent the following religious bodies:
Mennonite General Conference (15)
Central Conference Mennonites (10)
Evangelical Mennonite Conference (13)
The Evangelical Mennonite Brethren (5)
Missionary Church Association (1)

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THE CONGO MISSIONARY MESSENGER

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Associate Editor, Mrs. C. E. Rediger

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MINUTES

Annual Missionary Conference

held at

Mukedi Station - - December 13-16, 1948

CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Conference Chairman	Rev. F. J. Enns
Assistant Chairman	Rev. G. B. Neufeld
Conference Secretary	Rev. G. I. Rocke
Legal Representative	Rev. F. J. Enns
Assistant Legal Representative	Rev. R. O. Yoder
CPC Councillor	Rev. A. D. Graber
Alternate CPC Councillors	Rev. F. J. Enns, Rev. V. J. Sprunger, Rev. R. O. Yoder
Mission Treasurer	Rev. R. O. Yoder

Minutes of the Annual Missionary Conference of the Congo Inland Mission held at Mukedi Station—December 13-16, 1948

DECEMBER 13, 1948—8:30 A. M.

Opening session of the Annual Missionary Conference was held at Mukedi Station
Rev. V. J. Sprunger brought us an appropriate opening message based on John 15
Special Music—Mukedi Station
Season of prayer
Roll Call—28 missionaries present
Minutes of the 1947 Conference and the Field Committee Minutes of the year were read and accepted.
Voted: 1. That Miss Lodema Short be given the privilege to vote.
2. That Miss Quiring, Miss Short, and Miss Liechty serve as the Annual Letter and Statistical Committee.
3. That Miss Frieda Guengerich be editor of "Echoes of the Devotional Hour"

DECEMBER 13—2:00 P. M.

Miss Mabel Sauder brought a devotional message based on Romans 1:9-17
Special Music—Mutena Station
Roll Call—27 Missionaries present
Station report read for Mukedi Station
The following officers were elected by ballot:

Conference Chairman—Rev. F. J. Enns
Vice Chairman—Rev. A. D. Graber
Secretary—Rev. V. J. Sprunger

Station Chairmen:

Charlesville—Rev. G. I. Rocke
Mutena—Rev. G. B. Neufeld
Nyanga—Rev. F. J. Enns
Mukedi—Dr. Merle Schwartz
Tshikapa—Rev. A. D. Graber

Committee Chairmen:

Evangelistic—Rev. E. J. Dick
Educational—Rev. R. F. Schnell
Industrial—Rev. G. B. Neufeld
Agricultural—Rev. E. J. Dick
Medical—Dr. Merle Schwartz
Women's and Girls' Work—Mrs. H. A. Toews
Literature and Censorship—Miss Agnes Sprunger
Children's Work—Miss Frieda Guengerich
Auditing Committee—Rev. G. B. Neufeld, Rev. V. J. Sprunger, Rev. F. J. Enns
Congo Mission News Reporter—Miss Lodema Short

Voted:

4. That the Chairman of the Women's and Girls' Work serve as Correspondent for the C. P. C. pamphlet for Women's Work: "The Congo Hearth."
5. That Mr. Graber and one other missionary represent us at the 1949 C. P. C. meeting
6. That Mr. Sprunger represent us at the C.P.C. this year.
7. That we elect our CPC councillors for a 3-year term of service
8. That Mr. Graber's term as councillor to the CPC expire in December, 1951
9. That Mr. Sprunger be our CPC councillor with his term expiring December 1950
10. That Mr. Enns be Alternate Councillor to the CPC with his term expiring in December, 1949

DECEMBER 14—8:30 A. M.

Devotional message entitled "Refreshing Christians" given by Rev. R. F. Schnell based on the Book of Philemon
Music—Charlesville Station
Roll Call—28 missionaries present
Minutes of previous session read and approved.
Voted:

11. That a letter of greeting be sent by the Conference to our co-workers at home and those studying in Belgium and that Miss Schmallenberger write these letters.
12. That a seal be procured for the CIM Legal Representative.
13. That due to the requirements of the State, all missionaries bring their wills up to date. In case of married couples, each party should have a separate will.

DECEMBER 14—2 P. M.

Meditation led by Miss Anna Quiring based on II Cor. 9:8
Special Music—Male Chorus
Roll Call—28 Missionaries present
Minutes of previous session read and approved as corrected
Voted:

14. That we approach the APCM for the purpose of investigating the possibilities of a workable program whereby the future education of our CIM children might be assured at Central School

Adjournment for Committee meetings

DECEMBER 14—7 P. M.

Program presented by the missionary children in charge of Miss Lodema Short
Adjournment for Committee meetings and the making of a recording to be sent to the Home Board

DECEMBER 15—8:30 A. M.

Meditation led by Rev. F. J. Enns based on Phil. 3:7-14
Music by Nyanga Station
Roll Call—28 present

Voted:

15. That we accept the program of religious instruction in our schools as outlined.
16. That the assignments for the preparation of Educational material be included in Conference Minutes.
17. That the Home Board consider the matter of having a Belgian Missionary School inspector appointed by our mission and partly supported by the Belgian government. (See note of explanation directly following these minutes)

DECEMBER 15—2:00 P. M.

Devotional message by Miss Aganetha Friesen based on Eph. 3:20
Music—Ladies' Chorus
Minutes of previous session read and approved as corrected
Voted:

18. That Mr. V. J. Sprunger write a letter to Forminiere expressing our appreciation for the motor received from them to run the shingle making saw.

DECEMBER 16—9:00 A. M.

Devotional Message given by Rev. A. D. Graber
Music—Male Quartet
Minutes of previous session read and approved
Roll Call—28 present

Voted:

21. That we accept the recommendations of the Children's Committee

22. That we accept the recommendations of the Medical Committee
23. That we accept the recommendations of the Evangelistic Committee
24. That we accept the recommendations of the Educational Committee
25. That we accept the recommendations of the Industrial Committee
26. That we accept the Auditor's Report as given
27. That we accept the report and recommendations of the Finance Committee
28. That we accept the "Echoes of the Devotional Hour" as read
29. That we accept the Annual Letter as read
30. That we accept the invitation from Mutena for our next Conference—December 8—15 d.v.
31. That we give the Mukedi missionaries a standing vote of thanks for the splendid hospitality they have extended to us during the conference.

Adjournment

Special note on Minutes No. 17.—According to the present ruling from the government, it is almost essential that the CIM have a Belgian Missionary as inspector of our schools, both on the stations and outstations. This will take his full time. Since he will be a Belgian, he will be recognized by the government and will have more prestige, and will receive a subsidy which will go a long ways towards his allowance. There is a good possibility of finding a good Belgian Christian for this work who would also be a great aid in fostering our French Program in all our schools. Following is taken from a CPC circular regarding inspectors:

Missionnaires-inspecteurs:

1. Definite educational areas' circonscriptions scolaires' must be organized.
2. A Belgian national must be attached to each area.
3. For Protestant missions these areas have still to be agreed upon.
4. Nominations must be "agrses" by the Gov. Gen.
   a. The person nominated must not exercise other function incompatible with the work of a missionnaire-insp. such as Superior or director of a Mission station or Director of a school.
   b. The Person nominated must be in possession of a teachers' diploma. In the absence of such a Diploma a person having a Dip. d'etudes superieures plus definite teaching ability recognized following theoretical and practical tests conducted by the Service de l'Enseignement, may be accepted.

The missionnaire-inspecteur treats directly with the Chef du service provincial de l'enseignement, all questions of a technical or pedagogical nature. Other matters are treated directly with the Gov. General or the Governor of the Province.

Program and Assignments of Religious Education in our Schools

Deuxiene Degree

Premiere Annee

20 minutes

Such as Memory work, Bible Stories, and Catechism taught by the regular teacher.

40 minutes

4 periods per week:

a) Life of Christ according to the Gospels including journeys of Jesus as taught in Bible Geog.—Charlesville—followed by:

b) Acts, including journeys of Paul as taught in Bible Geog.—Nyanga

One period a week:

a) Structure of the Bible—Mutena—followed by:

b) Brief Church History—Mukedi

Deuxieme Annee

20 minutes

Such as Memory work, Bible Stories and Catechism taught by the regular teacher

40 minutes
3 periods per week
a) The Pentateuch and O. T. Bible Geog.—Nyanga—followed by:
b) How we got our Bible—Mukedi, Mutena
2 periods per week
a) First Semestre
Christian Ethics according to Kimpeze Stories, and Character Sketches from Joshua, Judges and Ruth—Nyanga
b) Second Semestre
"Dilogesha Dinane" (with full explanations) APCM Press

Troisieme Annee

20 minutes
Such as Memory Work, Bible Stories and Catechism taught by regular teacher
40 minutes
3 periods per week
I and II Samuel, I and II Kings, I and II Chron.—Charlesville
2 periods per week
a) First Semestre
Christian Ethics according to Romans and I and II Corinthians—Mukedi
b) Second Semestre
The Christian in relation to African customs—Mukedi—followed by:
The Way of Salvation (Personal Work)—Charlesville

Cours d'Apprentissage Pedagogique

Premiere Annee

20 minutes
Memory work, Bible Stories, and Catechism taught by regular teacher
40 minutes
2 periods per week
Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Galatians and I and II Thess. and the General Epistles—Mutena
2 periods per week
Personal Work—Charlesville
b) Second Semestre
Doctrine of the Trinity—Mutena
1 period per week
a) The Sunday School Worker—Mukedi—followed by:
b) Government Relations—Rev. V. J. Sprunger, Rev. R. F. Schnell

Deuxieme Annee

20 minutes
Memory Work, Bible Stories, and Catechism taught by regular teacher
40 minutes
2 periods per week
Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, 4 Prison Epistles, Hebrews—Charlesville
2 periods per week
a) First Semestre
Mudimu wa Muambi of which one period every two weeks is taken for personal work (discussion and reports) APCM press
Doctrine of Man, Angels, and Satan—Nyanga (Here again one period every two weeks is to be taken for Personal Work) (Discussion and reports)
1 Period per week
Music

Petite Seminaire

1st Hour, 10 semestre hours

2 hours first semestre: God's plan for the Ages—Mutena, followed by Typology—Mukedi, Mutena

2 hours second semestre: illustrated Messages (each station)

3 hours first semestre and 3 hours second semestre: Music

2nd Hour, 10 semestre hours

2 hours first semestre: The Psalms—Charlesville

2 hours second semestre: Pastoral Epistles (Question Method) Mukedi followed by Pastoral Work—Mutana

1 hour first and 1 hour second semestre: Handwork (Pool ideas)

1 hour first Semestre: Family life—Rev. R. F. Schnell

1 hour first semestre and 2 hours second semestre: Church history APCM Press

3rd Hour, 10 semestre hours

5 hours first and 5 hours second semestre: Supervised Study Period (During this time the students will also be taught how to study and how to use helps)—each station

4th Hour, 10 semestre hours

5 hours first and 5 hours second semestre: The Prophets with Historical Settings and Revelation—Nyanga

5th Hour, 10 semestre hours

2 hours first and two hours second semestre: Doctrine of Salvation—Charlesville The Church—Charlesville (including the Principles and Goal of the Indigenous Church)—Rev. F. J. Enns; the Scriptures—Charlesville; and the Last Things—Mutena, Mukedi

1 hour first and 1 hour second semestre: Supervised Play—each station

2 hours first and 2 hours second semestre: L'Art de Precher. Rev. F. J. Enns

In the Petite Seminaire the class hours are 55 minutes, leaving 5 minutes for the change of teacher.

Committee Recommendations:

Education Committee

We, the Education Committee, beg to submit the following recommendations:

1. That school terms begin the first part of January.
2. That school be in session 240 days a year (or its equivalent if agreed to by inspector)
3. That the following courses be taught in CAP (cours d'Apprentissage de Pedagogique)

School Management
Methods of Teaching
Religion
Calcul and System Metrique
Agriculture (Elevage and Travail Manual)
Geography
Langue Maternal
Science
Practice Teaching
Educational Psychology
French
Composition
Music (especially conducting)
Blackboard writing
History
Making Journal de Classe

4. That one copy of religious training course be sent to each station as soon as finished.
5. That as soon as a course is prepared, the Literature and Censorship Committee of each language area shall translate it into the respective languages in temporary form until officially passed upon by the Conference.

Industrial Committee

We, the Industrial Committee, wish to make the following recommendations:

1. That Mukedi Station alter school buildings as a temporary measure.
2. That Mukedi Station be permitted to build 2 school units of two rooms each (7 by 9 meters) to be built in 1950.
3. That Nyanga Station be permitted to alter and reroof 4 school units with permanent material for 1950.
4. That Charlesville be permitted to reroof with permanent materials 6 school units at once.
5. That Charlesville be permitted to build one school unit for 1950.
6. That the Bible School dormitories at Charlesville be changed into school units.
7. That we accept the Tshikapa Station plan.
8. That we accept the house plan for Tshikapa.
9. That all future house plans have 3 bedrooms.
10. That we accept the Banga Station plan.

Note: Alterations of school buildings and the roofing of the same and the erection of new buildings as mentioned above in recommendations numbers 1 to 5 will be partly paid by State subsidy. Also, Station plans for Tshikapa and Banga appear elsewhere in these minutes.

Evangelistic Committee

We, the Evangelistic Committee, submit the following recommendations:

1. That Mr. Dick contact the mission across the border in Angola to get an understanding with them concerning our Christians who have moved into their territory.
2. That the map showing the territory for Tshikapa Station be accepted as presented by Mr. Graber. (Drawing of this territory appears in these minutes)

Children's Committee

We, the Children's Committee, wish to make the following recommendation:

1. That we encourage our outstation teachers to hold children's meetings in their villages, and that we try to supply them with simple illustrative materials to use.

Medical and Furlough Committee

We, the Medical and Furlough Committee, submit the following recommendations:

1. That the following furloughs are due within the next two years:

Miss Fanny Schmallenberger	January, 1949
Miss Agnes Sprunger	January, 1949
Miss Erma Birkey	December, 1949
Rev. and Mrs. Roy Yoder	December, 1949
Rev. and Mrs. George Neufeld	April, 1950
Miss Lois Slagle	May, 1950
Rev. and Mrs. Henry Toews and family	September, 1950

2. That there be a special asking for milk for feeding cases.

Finance Committee

We, the Finance Committee, submit the following recommendations:

1. That $1000.00 of the askings for water and electricity for Tshikapa Station be sent out immediately to be used for the water system which will greatly assist in the industrial program.
2. That $100.00 per month be sent out for Banga Station as soon as concession is granted, for the year of 1949.
3. That the following financial askings for 1950 be accepted:

Charlesville Station

Evangelistic:		
Itinerating and Salaries		$1000.00
Education:		
Salaries	$400.00	
School Supplies	300.00	
154 Outstation Schools	308.00	
Agricultural Tools	42.00	
Building Repairs	300.00	1350.00
Station:		
Taxes, Woodmen, Sentries, etc.	500.00	
Repair on Buildings	150.00	650.00
		$3000.00

Note on Charlesville askings: In 1945, special askings were made by Charlesville for a dispensary, roof for girls' houses, Children's church and reflooring of the Graber house. As yet, nothing has been heard of these askings. In view of the raise in prices it has been suggested that the cost of a children's church at present would be near $1500.00. Other special askings of that date would also be increased accordingly.

Mutena Station

Agriculture:		
Tools, Salaries, etc.	$200.00	200.00
Education:		
Teachers' Salaries	200.00	
Girls' Clothing	300.00	
Girls' Rations	106.00	
School Supplies	100.00	
47 Outstation Schools	94.00	800.00
Evangelistic:		
Itinerating, Salaries, etc.	600.00	600.00
Industrial:		
Building, Tools, etc.	1000.000	1000.00
Station:		
Taxes, Woodmen, Sentries, etc.	100.00	
Landscaping	300.00	400.00
		$3000.00

Nyanga Station

Agriculture:		
Tools and pay	$150.00	150.00
Education:		
Clothing	800.00	
School Supplies	200.00	
Teachers' Pay	300.00	
Rations, Salt, Soap	200.00	
125 O. S. Teachers	250.00	1750.00
Evangelistic:		
Itinerating, Pay, etc.	700.00	700.00
Industrial:		
Repairs, etc.	400.00	400.00
		$3000.00

Special Askings:

Administration Building		2500.00
Garages for cars, push-pushes, etc.		1500.00
Dwelling House		3000.00

Mukedi Station

Agriculture:		
Tools, fences, fertilizer, etc.		250.00
Education:		
Salaries	250.00	
School supplies	296.00	
Rations, salt, pay	200.00	
Clothing	450.00	
52 O.S. Teachers	104.00	1300.00
Evangelistic:		
Itinerating	450.00	450.00
Industrial:		
Repairing buildings, tools, etc.	650.00	650.00
Station:		
Taxes, messengers, sentries, etc.	350.00	350.00
		$3000.00

Tshikapa Station

Evangelistic:	
Itinerating	900.00
Education:	
Salaries, school supplies, temporary bldgs., agricultural tools, trees, seeds, etc.	750.00
Station:	
Taxes, woodmen, sentries, road work, etc.	350.00
	$2000.00

Banga Station

Evangelistic:	
Itinerating, outstations	900.00
Education:	
Salaries, supplies, tools, etc.	350.00
Station:	
Taxes, woodmen, water, sentries	250.00
	$1500.00

Mission Office

Stamps, Stationery, rations, pay	200.00

Medical

Charlesville	1250.00
Special: Milk for feeding cases	100.00
Mutena	700.00
Special: Milk for feeding cases	100.00
Nyanga	700.00
Special: Milk for feeding cases	100.00
Mukedi	1250.00
Special: Milk for feeding cases	100.00
	$4300.00

CIM PRESS

Subsidizing Tracts and Literature	50.00
New Equip. and Binding Supplies	200.00
Labor and Overhead	250.00
Paper Supplies	50.00
	$550.00

Lake Madimape

Salaries and Maintenance	120.00

Property Evaluation—Mukedi Station

1.	Dwelling No. 1	60,000 fes.
2.	Dwelling No. 2	60,000
3.	Dwelling No. 3	60,000
4.	Dwelling No. 4	125,000
5.	Outbuildings at dwellings	10,000
6.	Station Office Bldg.	4,000
7.	Printing and Sewing Bldg.	4,000
8.	Garage and gas house	5,000
9.	Transit house and kitchen	32,000
10.	Two temporary chapels	2,000
11.	Hospital, wards and equipment	40,000
12.	Dispensary	20,000
13.	Cornhouse	1,200
14.	Girl's dormitories and kitchen	17,000
15.	Carpenter shop and equipment	10,000
16.	Two store houses	14,000
17.	School units	25,000
18.	Cars	
	Model A and Model B	25,000
	VS Passenger	100,000

PROGRAM OF THE CONGO INLAND MISSION FIELD CONFERENCE
Held at Mukedi Station, December 13-15, 1948

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13—

8:30 Devotional ..... Rev. V. J. Sprunger
Music ..... Mukedi Station
Season of Prayer
Reading of the 1947 Conference Minutes
11:00 Adjournment
2:00 Devotional ..... Miss Mabel Sauder
Music ..... Mutena Station
Business Session
4:00 Adjournment
7:00 Social evening in charge of Mukedi Station

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14—

8:30 Devotional ..... Rev. R. F. Schnell
Music ..... Charlesville Station
Business
11:00 Adjournment
2:00 Devotional ..... Miss Anna Quiring
Music ..... Men's Chorus in charge of Rev. H. A. Toews
Business
4:00 Adjournment
7:00 Children's Program in charge of Miss Lodema Short

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15—

8:30 Devotional ..... Rev. F. J. Enns
Music ..... Nyanga Station
Business
11:00 Adjournment
2:00 Devotional ..... Miss Aganetha Friesen
Music ..... Ladies' Chorus in charge of Miss Anna Liechty
Business
4:00 Adjournment
7:00 Devotional ..... Rev. A. D. Graber
Music ..... Men's Chorus
Season of Prayer
Closing Business
Adjournment

P. S.—STATION CHAIRMAN!!!! Remember to come to Conference with all reports . . . 5 copies of the annual station report, 3 copies of the Educational and Evangelistic Statistical sheets, one copy of Field Statistics for the year 1948.

CHARLESVILLE STATION REPORT 1948

Evangelistic

"The labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He may send forth labourers into His harvest." This has been our prayer many times as we have received the call from many villages for teachers and have seen the many hundreds of hungry hearts in these places have no one to teach them the way of life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Recently one of our overseers asked for seven new teachers for teacherless villages in his area.

During Passion Week special services were held during which time a number accepted Christ and others were restored to fellowship with the Lord. Also during September three weeks of evangelistic services were held preceded by two weeks of special prayer. Much fruit was realized from these efforts but we are still hoping and praying for greater things. Many of our and your prayers have not yet been answered by our Father but we rest in the knowledge that they have been heard.

The Sunday evening evangelistic services held in the village this year have been encouraging. These meetings were largely under the leadership of a number of our young men in the church. A goodly number were saved and helped who otherwise would have been unreached perhaps.

Many of our outstation teachers have been helped and encouraged this year by the visits of some of the missionaries in their villages. Frequently a group of missionaries and native workers went out on Sundays to villages that were within driving distance. Our new Charlesville car enables us to go out with a sufficiently large group so that services can be held in several villages simultaneously. The return of Rev. Schnell and Rev. Graber have made it possible for a number of itinerating trips this year. Many but not all of our villages have been visited. The state recommends that our outstation workers be checked on at least two or three times a year by visits from a missionary. If it would be possible to do this the Lord's work could be greatly strengthened and our reports would be more interesting and encouraging. It is our prayer that the lack of means and personnel may not be such a hindrance to this work in the days that lie ahead.

"Thy Word is a lamp." With God's Word as our lamp we have waited before Him again for another year of study and meditation. The second day of school we began with typewritten copies of all subjects not available in print in the hands of every *Bible School* student. Those copies replaced the notebooks which the students hereto-fore copied from the blackboards during the class periods. Approximately two months of each term had been spent in copying previously. This had its place and served a worthy purpose when the students were more matured. Now that children are entering school at an earlier age, and finishing elementary school while yet unstable, they have begun to rebel and have created great spiritual and social problems in higher schooling. The typewritten copies are also much more easily read and are in uniform binders for study and review.

We have been greatly handicapped again this whole year because of the lack of Bibles. Since only the New Testament is in the hands of most of the students, the Old Testament subjects and books are vague to them. They have only the notes and the class lectures by the teachers. How we do pray for the speedy arrival of these Bibles before next term of school! Because the students have not had their own Bibles we teachers have spent much of the class time loaning our Bibles to the students to read from them a portion of the lesson each day. The Bibles will be much more appreciated than heretofore, we are sure.

The new year is before us with new and larger opportunities to expound His precious Word of Life to every grade. The state school inspector has come and our schools have been examined. Our programs have been changed. The Bible School subjects are being graded, and the material adapted to the ages of the pupils in the different grades. The three-year Bible School is no more, but the one-year Petit Seminaire preparing

only outstation teachers and evangelists will replace it. Those Bible subjects not taught in elementary school and the new two-year teacher-training course, including some too difficult for very young students and others particularly suitable for the Seminaire will be studied by the seminary students. Thus we can concentrate on preparing them to teach others the Gospel more satisfactorily, as we make more way for the Spirit to unfold to them the hidden truths in His Word and will. The state agricultural program for the natives has caused a great trend of "hurry" as they are having more and larger fields where "still waters" cannot "run deep."

Women too old to take the course of study in the Seminaire have asked for a Bible study course to be taught to them for two hours each week. The Life of Christ according to the four gospels and including the journeys of Jesus has been chosen as their first course. This is to be followed by a course in personal work and soul winning. This is in addition to the regular week day class of two hours in which portions of Scripture are studied and memorized.

The choir and special group-*singing* of the "Cercle" of former students who are now teachers, medical helpers, secretaries, printers, etc., on the station have added much to their own and to the spiritual life of the services. Many are learning to play guitars, mouth-harps, and portable organs. Perhaps you will hear some of their praises as recorded on wire and sent home by Mr. Graber.

Hebrews 11:8, ". . . He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." We believe this applies very well to our work among the *women*. Those who have sought Jesus as Saviour have found Him. Others who have diligently sought to serve Him by attending church services and going out faithfully to teach the Bible lessons have been blessed. But many others have missed the blessing. They have put the earthly things first and do not have any time left for Jesus.

An instruction class has been held each week for those who have recently accepted Christ. Some completed their course and were baptized in May and another group in November. One method of reaching the women has been the work of the Bible women at times of bereavement and mourning. Several Bible women go together to comfort the sorrowing with hymns and the Word of God. Leaving a small gift from their offering box.

We have been giving our outstation teachers' wives a new little booklet of twenty-six lessons for women. We pray that it will be used to bless many.

As mentioned above, our women have expressed a desire to have Bible lessons, and we are happy for this. We are doing our best to make use of this opportunity to strengthen our women in the Christian faith.

The little *children* present a great challenge to us. One never goes to the village without a following of these little ones and they are always eager to listen and never fail to ask for pictures. They love to get Bible pictures and we have used them as an incentive for the children to come to children's services on time. Roll was called each Sunday morning as the children stood in line before entering the church. Those who were on time for three Sundays received small picture cards and those who were on time six times received larger pictures. We wrote the Scripture references on the pictures in Tshiluba so that the passages could be read and enjoyed in the village. Our attendance has increased and though there are still many who arrive late, we have nice groups with which to begin the services. We have used lessons on the Life of Christ with flannelgraph pictures to illustrate them.

We plead with every reader of these reports to pray, pray and pray for the Church of Christ in the Congo that she may grow in depth of spirituality and not in "things"; that she may be burdened for the souls of her fellowmen; that she may love her Master more and more and show it by giving and praying and going till all tribes have heard the Gospel and have seen Jesus.

Educational

This past year there were again almost 600 elementary pupils who were with us the entire school year. We were assisted by 20 African teachers.

Due to the new educational program in which we shall take elementary students through the fifth grade only, we had a large number of pupils eligible to receive diplomas this year. We graduated 66 with fifth grade certificates, 13 with sixth grade and six with seventh grade, making a total of 85. We are expecting a number of them to return in January to take the new two-year teacher-training course we are planning to begin at that time.

Over 70 of our students were girls and women, the 20 from the Girls' Home and over 50 from the village. There were four who completed the third grade, eight the second, almost 20 the first grade and about 15 the beginners' class. Most of those satisfactorily completing the first, second and third grades are able to read the New Testament fluently. During the second semester we taught sewing in addition to the regular academic subjects. We feel that placing the girls in separate classes enables them to learn more while in school. We wish more men would see the advisability of educating their daughters and sisters.

The school has had its ups and downs, its joys and sorrows, and its problems and disappointments, etc., this past year. We had the opportunity to reach the students with the Gospel to some extent. With the inauguration of the new educational program more Bible will be taught in the elementary school with special emphasis upon bringing them to Christ and teaching them Christian ethics. Pray with us that Christ may be presented effectively and attractively to the students so that many may accept Him as their personal Saviour from sin, and that all who know Him may grow in grace.

After spending six months in the village with Christian families the girls returned to the *Girls' Home* in January. Four new faces were among them. Nine other new ones entered in July. Our total number was 20. We were happy to see the progress which these girls made in school this year. A number of them have learned to read the New Testament quite fluently. We pray that they will use this knowledge to the glory of God in their villages and homes.

In May three of their number were baptized and others have accepted Christ as their personal Saviour. May they go on to a deeper knowledge of Him and be a blessing to others in their own homes and communities.

Six girls were married during the year to Christian young men from our schools.

There were days when our hearts were heavy because of the problems which arose in the home, but the Lord was with us and we praise Him again for His grace which is sufficient and for the power of the Gospel "unto salvation to every one that believeth." We pray that the seed sown in these hearts may bring forth fruit for His glory and praise.

Medical

The medical work has been a blessing to a large number of sick again this year. As the Gospel was given to them when they came for physical treatment a number accepted the Great Physician Who heals the soul. We have had the usual cases of worms, malaria and ulcers, besides an epidemic of dysentery. Several children died due to this disease. The Lord has blessed and we praise Him for undertaking in the difficult cases.

Obstetrical work again showed an increase; 384 mothers were cared for this year. Three pairs of twins were born. The mothers are still being asked to go to the hospitals for confinements. We praise the Lord for the many answers to prayer; since we still do not have a doctor the work often seems difficult. We thank you all for the part that you have had in sending out the layettes and other hospital supplies. In past years part of our time had to be spent in getting clothes ready for the babies if we did not want to send them home in their birthday clothes. May the Lord reward each one for his part in removing this work from our hands and may He give you the desire to continue in this work.

We are very happy for the new wood shingles which now cover one of our wards in place of the palm leaves which always seemed to be needing replacement. We are hoping that the other will get its new cover soon.

At the present time we are taking care of five orphans, three of which are feeding cases. The youngest weighed 3½ pounds at the age of 37 days. Now after giving her milk in place of the palm wine and water she had been getting she weighs 5½ pounds on her 80th day. He does exceedingly abundantly above that which we ask or think. Praise be His Name!

Industrial

A machine for sawing shingles arrived on the field a few months ago. We expected to get a steam engine from the diamond company or some other company out here for power to run the saw, but there is none to be found, so the 1922 Model A Ford was rigged up by applying a belt on one of the rear wheels. In this way we sawed over 2200 square feet of shingles, or enough to cover one school unit and maternity building.

However the job is too hard for the aged Ford which must travel 45 miles per hour to run the saw 800 revolutions per minute or only at half the speed it should run. Another request was made to the president of the diamond company and we just received word that a motor which runs by charcoal will be available. We trust this will prove satisfactory, so that these buildings so badly in need of roofs may be covered.

Tshikapa

"Let patience have her perfect work."—James 1:4.

There were seven trips made to Tshikapa from July 26th to November 18th. On the last named date all the nearby chiefs, a state official and a missionary met on the grounds where we have asked for a concession. Agreements were made with the natives for their fields on this ground. The finer prints and signature of the missionary present were placed on five copies of the map and a number of other documents. The state official said he sees no reason why we should not have the final paper for the concession within a few weeks.

Temporary quarters have been built in the nearby native village where building equipment and material is stored. Some things were taken for this new station each time a trip was made to Tshikapa.

CIM Press

"My word . . . shall not return unto me void."—Isaiah 55:11.

How often the above verse comes to our mind as we listen to the school children recite verses from the memory booklet printed on the C. I. M. Press. Unfortunately the first part of the year publication work has been hindered because of the lack of repairs for the press. We thank God that the press has been satisfactorily repaired and that work has been resumed. Work is still being done on selected Bible lessons in the Kipende language which should be completed sometime next January. There is much work waiting to be printed. This would diminish if we could cause the workers to do their work more efficiently and rapidly. Pray much that the press will prove to be a greater blessing than ever before this coming year.

MUETENA STATION REPORT 1948

Evangelistic Department

In the evangelistic department we can say with Samuel "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

It was with a glad heart that we dedicated our temporary chapel to the Lord in the morning of February 8 of this year. This marked the moving of our worship services from the nearby village of Kasonga to Mutena. As time allowed we were able to organize the various other departments so that we have been able to carry on a complete program at Mutena now for some time.

Kasadi Matayo was our guest speaker for one week during May. During the morning chapel services he taught the doctrine of tithing. In the forenoon special services

of instruction and inspiration were arranged especially for the outstation teachers who were at Mutena at that time for an institute. The evenings were devoted mainly to evangelistic services resulting in a number of souls being saved and others returning to Christ after having gone astray. To God be all the glory.

In the past year we have been privileged to visit all of our outstations at least once. As occasion afforded, additional visits were made to various stations. Four new chapels were dedicated to the Lord. In an effort to impress upon our Christians more thoroughly their responsibility in supporting the indigenous church, much stress has been laid on tithing and the bringing of a weekly offering. In order that the teaching might have more weight, communion was denied those candidates who did not regard this particular phase of church duty, even though they passed the test of living consistently. It has cut down our number of baptisms very much but we trust they will learn to realize more fully what their responsibility is in their church. We are happy for those who are faithfully following this particular rule of church order.

The many Forminiere camps in our territory are a field of much hard labor. Many of the camps have been visited and efforts have been made to organize regular worship services among the Christians that are there. The difficulty is to find someone who is fit to take over the responsibility of leadership. They truly are as sheep without a shepherd. The majority of these are transients from other missions. In most cases they have been gone from their home station a long time and consequently have lost all contact with the same. It is an extremely difficult task to get them all lined up in order that proper follow-up work can be done. Efforts have been made to get the riches of a number of these workers, but thus far we have had very little success. We are especially burdened for the many children of these Christian workmen who are being forced into Catholicism because of the new educational program which is being carried out in each camp and is completely in the hands of the Catholics. May the Lord grant us a way whereby we might be able to reach them in time in order that they too might be saved.

Perhaps for the first time in the history of Protestant missions in this territory efforts have been made to reach the inmates of the prison at Tshikapa with the Gospel. One of our deacons has been granted a government permit whereby he may enter the prison for the purpose of meeting the spiritual needs of the inmates who desire his help. It touches one's heart when one sees their joy for being remembered also.

Our continued plea to the Lord is for more consecrated labourers for there is yet much to be done but the labourers are entirely too few.

BIBLE SCHOOL

We have had one semester of Bible school at Mutena. The classes have not been large but we are glad for the interest a few have shown. Besides the regular class work some of the students are going out to nearby villages. A few are doing children's work in the villages and in the Junior Sunday School. One student has finished the course. We hope that all of the other students will continue their study in the coming year and eventually find their place in service for their Lord and to their own fellowmen.

WOMEN'S WORK

We are much encouraged with our women's work at Mutena. They have shown a keen interest in their weekly services and Catechism classes. We have been surprised to see the efforts some grandmothers and young wives have put forth in faithful attendance to the school which has been conducted for them. We promised a New Testament to the woman who learned to read one for herself. So far no one has attained the gift but we are looking forward to a better school in the new year.

A few of our more capable women speak in our Women's Meetings and lead the singing. Some of them conduct services in our Maternity Ward on Sunday afternoons. Many of these to whom they minister are very ignorant and can hardly grasp the intent of God's wonderful plan of Salvation.

Several months ago one of our outstation teachers lost all of his belongings in an unmerciful grass fire. We asked our women to bring in a special offering for them in

their distress. We did not know what their response would be to this appeal. We are happy to report that nearly all of them gave something and we felt that the experiment was very worth while. We were able to send to this particular teacher over three hundred ears of corn, approximately eighty sticks of cassava and nearly nine francs. The total amount was about $2.00. A nice letter of thanks, which was received from the teacher, was read in our service. The weekly offerings have been liberal considering the status of some of our women.

Pray much for our Congo women who have hard places to fill. Some are doing well, however, there is so much room for improvement, and so many who do not know the Lord.

GIRLS' WORK

We were happy to establish our Girls' Home at Mutena on August 7. They are happy in their new home, with their new building and furnishings. They are only few in number but we are happy for their willingness to make their new fields as well as to help in clearing parts of the station.

One of the girls went to marriage in the village, but she was very unhappy to leave her nice home here, but because of the marriage having been arranged and riches paid, her folks insisted that she must go.

As we work with these girls and see the awful life that is before those who are given into cruel hands, then we are happy for those that have a brighter future before them.

CHILDREN'S WORK

"Even so it is not the will of the Father which is in Heaven that one of these little ones should perish." Matthew 18:14.

In our children's work we have been conducting services in the villages in order to be able to reach all the children and in an effort to teach them the way of Salvation. Sin is manifested everywhere and we have been burdened for these many children whom the Lord wants us to bring into His fold, that they might in their childhood experience regeneration and be spared from falling into the many sins and superstitions.

When visiting the outstations a special children's program was arranged. These special programs were conducted by a young African boy, 16 years of age, who has been trained to play the accordion and give flannelgraph talks. These two features proved a great attraction in all the villages. He also was supplied with Sunday school pictures which were given to each child that attended the services. It was with great joy that these pictures were received, as to many of them it was the first time they had seen pictures like that.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING

This year the responsibility of selecting their own leaders to conduct the Young People's service, was put in the hands of the boys and girls attending school. Each student was permitted to vote but they were instructed to vote for only those of their number who are in good standing in the church. For many it was the first lesson in a democratic form of election. For the most part they showed wisdom and prudence in their choice of officers.

An attempt was made to vary the type of services. Topics were discussed, reports of the work were given by those who made visits to the outstation teachers, hymn stories were related and special music was provided by various groups in school.

We realize that in theses services, we not only have the responsibility of providing spiritual food, but we have the opportunity of sharing in the training of African leaders for the Congo church of tomorrow.

CHOIR

The choir met once weekly to practice old songs and to learn new ones. Due to the moving from Kalamba to Mutena some obstacles were encountered which hindered rapid progress.

A number of new members were added who were inexperienced while others who had been members, dropped out, thus making it difficult to get into shape for public appearances. They did, however, help in the Worship service on several occasions and proved to be an asset.

BOYS' CHOIR

For both of the school semesters of this year, we met for weekly practice with the smaller boys of the school. After eliminating those who had changed their voice range, 49 boys remained to comprise the choir. A splendid interest was shown at each practice. On a number of occasions they provided a special number for the Sunday morning services.

Educational Department

With thanksgiving in our hearts we praise our Father for the blessings of the past year. In our last year's report we mentioned that we had had one semester of school here at Mutena and that there seemed good prospects that our school would grow. Today we can report that just that is happening. Our enrollment this last semester was 6 times that of last year. At least three-fourths of these pupils come from our outstations. This fact and many other incidents show us that our outstation people are happy that at last they also can come to the station to take advantage of the opportunities offered here.

Among these pupils we are finding some very promising talent. Quite a number of them have already been given work in our different departments. Some are carpenters, some masons and some are helping in the medical work. Thus we hope that in the future we shall have men and women who will be ready to take responsibilities upon themselves both on the station and also in the outstations.

With a prayer for this in our hearts we are striving to teach these boys and girls the Word of God and their responsibility toward their fellowmen.

Industrial Department

With another year rapidly drawing to a close, we realize that divine guidance and protection have been ours, as we have endeavored to get enough buildings put up so that our whole station force could again concentrate efforts from one place. Though we have often been very much crowded for space, and still have no surplus storage room, yet we have been bountifully blessed in that the work has gone forward in spite of handicaps.

The industrial program was helped tremendously with the coming of the three-ton truck in February. Thousands of brick and tons of rock as well as most of the mission supplies and personal items have been hauled from Kalamba to Mutena with an approximate 50% saving in costs not to count the palavers which would have accompanied the moving, had it been done by native labor.

The greater part of the clearing, and landscaping has been done by school boys, while the actual building has been done partly by village workmen and partly by school boys. The carpenter work is almost entirely in the hands of school boys.

There have been times when a serious accident could easily have happened, but in all these cases God had protected so that no very serious things have come about. We praise Him for this and pray that He might again be with us during the coming year which promises to be another busy one for the industrial department.

AGRICULTURE

The making of fields at our new station was not easy due to the forest on the concession. However, we have already harvested a good crop of corn, peanuts, beans, sweet potatoes and cassava. Our fields planted this year promise another good harvest. We are thankful for the nice vegetables we were able to raise for our own needs. We thank God for supplying our needs as well as the needs of the African girls.

ORCHARD

We ordered from the State some grafted grapefruit, orange and tangerine trees of different varieties. A number of them are doing very nicely while others are not doing

so well. We need more information as to how to control the many insects which insist on destroying those trees.

Medical Department

The year 1948 was one of beginnings for Mutena. On Monday morning, Feb. 2, we opened our station dispensary to the lame, the sick, the halt and the blind. Our present building of mud and sticks, though not of the latest architecture, has well served the purpose. Patients from a much larger radius than that which we served previously are coming to the dispensary. Quite a number from the two neighboring diamond mine camps have sought our aid. These coming from a distance must be provided with houses in which to live until their treatment is completed. Grass houses constructed behind the dispensary aid in this housing program. One of our African leaders has faithfully done personal work with the occupants of these houses as they have come and gone.

The approximately 180 boys and girls on our compound were no small concern of this year's medical program. An attempt has been made to give each student a medical examination with tests for both malaria and intestinal parasites and when necessary, institute treatments; but at the end of this semester, the task remains unfinished. However, the Lord willing, we expect to resume the examinations at the beginning of the new semester.

Our obstetrical work has also grown this year, approximately doubling the number of cases of last year. In this department, too, we have reached some homes with which we as a mission have no other contact. Each mother, as she has come, has heard the Gospel story so that none is able to say that no one told her of Jesus.

We are thankful to God for His kind providences to us in this year and with faith in the future we welcome the coming year of service for Him.

NYANGA STATION REPORT FOR 1948

Evangelistic Department

"Bless the Lord, Oh, my soul, and forget not all His benefits." Sometimes we look so much at our disappointments that we fail to see our benefits, that we daily take from the hand of the Lord. As we look over the past year and really consider what the Lord has done for us, we cannot help but say with the Psalmist, "Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, for His wonderful works to the children of men."

We had the blessed privilege of baptizing 106 precious souls during the year, and of receiving them into the membership of the church. Our church attendance has been good, running from 500 to 1100 per Sunday. Although we have had discouraging experiences, we can certainly praise the Lord for the wonderful way in which He has led us.

OUSTATIONS

We are very sorry that we were so short of help that the outstations could not be visited by the missionaries this year as we have been accustomed to do. We hope to visit them the first part of the new year. The assistant pastors have visited all the outstations once this year and the overseers twice. The outstation teachers—which number well over a hundred by this time—were in twice for a teachers' institute, and once to greet Miss Quiring and Mr. Enns.

BIBLE SCHOOL

The Bible School has been going strong. We now have an enrollment of 90 pupils. So far there seems to be a desire to go on to Bible School after finishing the day school. It is a real pleasure to see at least some of these students really go forward and grow in grace.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

The C. E. has met regularly every other Sunday. The making of the programs has been to a large extent in the hands of the Africans and they have really had some fine programs. Practically everybody is ready to take part in the programs and to do his share to make the programs worth while. Some special features were programs given

by the women, the children, the outstation teachers, and the near-by Regional Schools.

PERSONAL WORK

The personal workers' group meets every other Sunday. They go out afternoons of those Sundays to do personal work. Sometimes they go in groups, sometimes individually. Then in the evening in a public meeting they report of their work. This group is made up largely of Bible School students, although there are a number of the older Christians in it too.

CHILDRENS WORK

In our children's work we have kindergarten during the school months. Every other Sunday afternoon we meet with them for an hour. During this hour we have a program in which the children take part. The programs are well attended. The boys gladly take part in the programs, but the girls are rather shy to get up before the group.

The attendance of the village children's S. S. class is over 100 almost every Sunday. On special Sundays it has gone over 200 a few times. The S. S. classes of children of Christian parents on the mission are well attended too.

MUSIC

During the last year we have somewhat changed from our usual custom of having a mixed choir. We organized a "Cercle de Musique" among the men, selecting those who knew more about music, and were also in good standing in the church. The idea was more to get a ltle variety in the music of the station. The group meets once a month for an inspirational meeting, and then there are two or three practices per week at the time that the choir formerly met. This group has sung frequently on Sunday morning. The members of this group also furnished musical numbers, both vocal and mouth harp numbers, at the welcome programs for our returning missionaries, Miss Quiring and Mr. Enns.

The first and third year Bible School classes have also furnished special numbers for Sunday services.

The girls have received instruction in music during the Day School time, when boys go for field work.

Educational Department

SCHOOL

The enrollment has remained about the same as last year, 430 pupils for the Day School. Only the number of pupils was taken in from the Regional Schools as to replace the number that had graduated the previous semester. 127 pupils graduated this year. We happened to have three graduations this year rather than two because we wanted to finish the school year in December so we could start the new school term at the beginning of the year.

We experienced our first visit from the inspector on November 9-11. His suggestions and criticisms carried much weight with the teachers. With regard to French he said that our pupils know "too much" and "too little." They did not know how to put together what they did know, but he said that it was the same elsewhere.

The one big feature for change will be the number of school days per year, bringing the number to 200 to 240 days per year.

The sanitary agent from our territory, Dr. Jost, was present at one of our graduations. Mr. and Mrs. Beeldens from Tshikapa visited awhile in our school in the month of May. We had also invited them to return for the June graduation, but they did not find it possible to do so.

WOMEN'S WORK

During the year we have had two sessions of Bible Study classes for the women only. Early in the year during March and part of April we had the first classes. The women were divided into two groups according to their reading ability. The first group which consisted of the better readers came for a period of two weeks for about an hour per day. The classes met and dismissed according to the Bible school bells. Then the second group followed for a two-weeks' time of study. The major part of the hour was spent

in the study of the book of Galatians. Also some instruction was given in singing. At the close of this time of study the women gave a program at the C. E. hour. At this program the women portrayed some of the scenes in the Easter story where the women appeared at the tomb in search of Christ. They also sang the two new songs which they had learned.

In the month of October we again had classes for two hours per morning, for one week for each group. The first hour was spent in the study of II Peter, and the second period was given over to music and sewing. The women seemed to be very much interested and attended the classes very regularly. In the first group of 19 women only one woman missed having a perfect attendance. In the second group of 27 women four were imperfect in attendance.

These classes were designed to help the women who already had some knowledge of reading and of the Scriptures, to study, pray and think together on the Word of God. The women also enjoyed the simple sewing lessons of stitching designs, oblongs or squares, of Americana.

The Reading Classes for women have also been continued during the year. Their attendance record would not look as favorable. Of necessity, Africans have been teaching this class, and they fail as yet to make the study lessons attractive enough to captivate the African woman's mind.

In our Lettre de Nyanga we have included one page for the women. The story was taken from the Congo Hearth, which is designed particularly for African women.

GIRLS' WORK

In the past year we have had many new girls come in. Our average for this year is more than it was last year. A number of girls have been baptized during the year. Others have accepted Christ as their Saviour.

The girls have millet, peanut and manioc fields which keep them supplied with work and also food. In the afternoon they go to school.

It is our hope that, as these girls get a Christian training on the station, they will be leaders in their villages in establishing Christian homes. We pray for guidance, wisdom and grace in this work.

BOYS' WORK

We have at present 150 boys on the station. To feed, house, and clothe these boys is quite a problem. On the other hand, many of our converts and baptismal candidates come from this group. So we feel that the work is well worth while. The boys also do a good bit of the industrial work on the station. With the high cost of workmen this is quite an item. It is always a joy to me to go to the evening roll call of the boys and hear them sing and pray. The fields did not yield quite as much this year as last year, but the crop was good and sufficient to take care of the needs of our children. We praise the Lord for supplying this need.

BUILDING

The industrial work this year has consisted mostly in repairing leaky roofs and doing repair work in general, besides trying to finish up the Toews' dwelling. During the month of June we did build a small store house. If we could get permanent roofs on our buildings it would save us a lot of time and money.

Medical Department

During the past year we have proved God's faithfulness to us in the medical work. We had no nurse on our station, and not one doctor in the mission during the past year. The work has been difficult at times, but God has been faithful. We are expecting our nurse back this year yet, but we pray that someone will feel the call of coming out as a doctor.

We have again treated many sick people with the aid of our African helpers. Many have been treated for sores and ulcers, others for pneumonia. A number have been bullet wound patients, and others with different kinds of diseases of the tropics. I am especially thinking of one of our outstation teachers who was a strong character in the work,

who had tick fever. But we thank God that his life was spared, and that he is back in the village again teaching as much as his strength permits. He was sick for months, and during the last month of his illness he had a stroke in which his tongue was paralyzed.

OBSTETRICAL WORK

The obstetrical cases this year have exceeded those of last year. For a while there was only one white person on the station. During that time there were four hard cases. There was no one to drive the car to take them to Tshikapa, but the Lord undertook, and only one mother died.

ORPHANS

At present we have 12 orphans and one feeding baby. Continue much in prayer for the medical work at Nyanga.

ANNUAL LETTER

We thank the Lord that He enabled all 28 missionaries on the field to be present at our annual missionary conference this year. We again had with us a goodly number of missionaries returned from furlough, the Sprunger family, the Schnells, Miss Friesen, Miss Quiring, Rev. Graber and Rev. Enns. The latter left his family in the States, which was a sacrifice both to himself and to his family.

We believe Miss Unrau is already in the Congo. She is expected to arrive at her station before Christmas. News has come that the Dr. Schwartz family is hoping to leave Belgium the last part of December.

We are happy to welcome into our midst this year one new missionary, Miss Short. May the Lord in His own time bring to us other new missionaries who are studying in Belgium and in the States.

Including Russell Melvin Schnell, Jr., and David Glenn Rocke, who arrived in September and October, there are now 16 missionaries' children with us. Their presence among us enlivened many a moment. One evening they favored us with an entertaining and inspirational Christmas skit.

We enjoyed the fellowship of our native brethren in a three-day conference that preceded the missionaries' conference. Much interest was fostered in attendance at the evening meetings with the film "Bamba." It is a true story of a boy born in the Congo. He was destined to be a witch doctor. Instead, after being discovered by a Protestant missionary, he became a medical aide. After his training he went back to his village to bring to his own people healing for not only their bodies but also for their souls. He had the opportunity to cure his uncle, the village witch doctor, when his own heathen medicines had done no good. As a result, when one day Bamba was instructing a group of his villagers out in the open air, the uncle appeared with all his medicines and fetishes. Casting them on the ground, he said to his nephew, "Your God shall be my God."

A large crowd had gathered to view the picture. For many it meant a two-hour walk to come in. These folks would never have come for an ordinary gospel meeting. Even though their motive may not have been the highest, they were brought face to face with their own superstitious beliefs versus those of the glorious Gospel. We believe that seed was sown in the hearts of many who had never before considered Christianity.

From the opening moment of the conference we were made conscious of the possibilities for progress before us. There were encouraging reports concerning the two newly planned stations, Tshikapa and Banga. The newest issue facing us now is our educational program. The program accepted by the Belgian government seems to be a unique opportunity. There are many qualifications to meet, but by meeting them our schools will be put on an equal basis with Catholic schools and at the same time we can incorporate any religious teaching we please. The educational work is a real challenge in the light of this.

We wish to express our appreciation to the Mukedi missionaries for the kind thoughtfulness and hospitality they have extended to us during this conference.

Sincerely yours,

THE COMMITTEE

ECHOES OF THE DEVOTIONAL HOUR

Our missionary conference began on Monday morning, December 13, with an inspirational message by Rev. V. J. Sprunger. His subject was "The Need of Abiding in Christ" taken from John 15. As we look at the work that is before us it appears larger than ever before. There are thousands of needy souls who do not know what salvation is and many who are in need of physical help. We also have a large industrial, or building program with a need for more schools, churches, medical wards, etc. There are also the two new stations to build up. The new educational program will put added responsibilities upon us.

As we look at this picture of the work before us, we need to be careful that we do not allow ourselves to think in terms of material things. We need, rather, to be more humble as the responsibilities increase. We need to abide in Christ above all else. We must never lose sight of Jesus. The bigger the task the more important to abide in Him.

Thousands of souls are involved and we **must** abide in Him that we may lead them to the Saviour.

Monday, December 13, 2:00 P.M.

Miss Mabel Sauder led our devotions using Romans 1:9-17 as her text. She brought out three main thoughts:

1. I am debtor.

We, as servants of Christ, have a debt to all men. It is because we realize this fact that we are here, and for this reason we stay.

2. I am ready.

Paul said that he was ready to preach the Gospel at Rome even though he knew it might mean suffering. Can we truly say that we are ready for the tasks ahead of us?

3. I am not ashamed.

We are representatives of the greatest cause on earth—a cause which knows no defeat. We need not be ashamed, for the Gospel is "the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."

Tuesday, December 14, 8:30 A.M.

Our hearts were stirred by a message by Rev. R. F. Schnell. He spoke about "Refreshing Christians," using Philemon 1:7 as his text.

A refreshing Christian is:

1. A Sympathetic Christian.

Are we sometimes sharp and in a hurry in our dealings with the natives because of our many duties? Are they refreshed by their contacts with us? We need to be sympathetic.

2. A Praying Christian.

Paul, though a strong man, continually asked for the prayers of the Christians. Praying Christians bring showers of grace upon themselves and others.

3. An Optimistic Christian.

We need to be mindful that there are the faithful ones and not be looking on the discouraging side.

4. A Responsive Christian.

Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2:00 P. M.

Miss Anna Quiring directed our attention to "Abundant Grace" with II Cor. 9:8 as a basis of her thoughts.

This text suggests four things concerning abundant grace:

1. The source of abundant grace.

It is given that we may abound in every good work and that it might redound to

2. The recipient of abundant grace.

This, like salvation, is a personal matter. "God is able to make all grace abound toward *you*."

3. The power of abundant grace.

It is all sufficient. A child of God should never permit his heart to question the sufficiency of His grace, but every child of God should firmly grasp the established truth,

that His grace is sufficient. It is all sufficient because its source is the All-Sufficient One Himself.

4. The purpose of abundant grace in us.

It is given that we may abound in every good work and that it might redound to the glory of God.

Tuesday, Dec. 14, 7:00 P. M.

We enjoyed a program by the children which was in charge of Miss Lodema Short. They put on a skit in which Grandfather and the children, being unable to attend the candle-lighting service at the church on Christmas Eve, have their own program at home. They read the Scriptures and sang songs. They also gave several other readings and a flannelgraph story.

Wednesday, Dec. 15, 8:30 A. M.

Our chairman, Rev. F. J. Enns, gave a message on "Paul, the Missionary." His text was found in Philippians 3:7-14.

1. Paul's policy was one of expansion and consolidation.

It was his purpose that Christ's Church be established and presented to Him without spot. He went out to the far regions to proclaim the Gospel, but he also established the church in these places.

2. He was interested in the individual.

3. He made use of his opportunities.

His disappointments became opportunities for him to witness for Christ. Even in his defences before the authorities he put Christ first and made them opportunities to witness for Him.

4. He was a man of prayer.

His prayers show the depth of his life. We can see by his letters that he spent much time in prayer.

5. He was guided by the Holy Spirit.

Paul was a man of intense zeal, but he was guided by the Holy Spirit. When he would enter some forbidden door, the Spirit restrained him by closing that door. We, too, have come up against closed doors in the work in the Congo, but have found that wider opportunities have been opened to us.

Wednesday, December 15, 2:00 P.M.

Miss Aganetha Friesen reminded us again that "God is Able." The text was found in Ephesians 3:20, 21.

1. God's power and willingness exceed man's need and desire—even his thoughts. We see many evidences of this in His Word.

a. The Israelites crossed the Red Sea on dry land.

b. They likewise crossed the Jordan in flood tide. God attends to the mud also.

c. The walls of Jericho fell flat as the Israelites followed the command of the Lord.

d. On Mt. Carmel God sent fire to consume the wet wood as well as the stones and dust.

e. Christ fed the five thousand and more food was left than He had at the beginning.

f. At Christ's word the disciples were able to catch a great number of fish.

2. God repays exceeding abundantly.

a. He visits the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation and shows mercy unto thousands. Ex. 20:5.

b. "He that sows to the flesh shall reap corruption, but he that soweth to the Spirit shall reap life everlasting." Gal. 6:7, 8.

c. "Give and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over . . . " Luke 6:38.

Thursday, Dec. 16, 9:30 A.M.

Our conference was fittingly closed with an inspiring message by Rev. A. D. Graber. The text was Acts 26:19 and Proverbs 19:13—"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

He introduced his thoughts with this definition of a missionary:

"To have a vision, *only,*
Makes you a visionary,
To have a vision plus a passion
Will make you to be a missionary."

1. We need a Vision of making Christ known.

Paul was ever on the lookout for opportunities of making Christ known. He spoke to the crowds, but also took time with the individual. He spoke to all classes, kings and common folk as well. We need to follow His example. Are we using the best methods in introducing Christ?

2. We need a Passion for the lost.

Paul is an example for us in this also. He had a passion in his prayer life. He prayed "without ceasing." He also had a passion in his preaching, for he believed what he preached.

Gen. Wm. Booth when asked what was the secret of his ministry, replied, "I guess the reason is that God has all there is of me." Does God have "all there is" of us?

FIELD STATISTICS
FOR THE CONGO INLAND MISSION

EVANGELISTIC DEPT.:	*Charlesville*		*Mutena*		*Nyanga*		*Mukedi*	
	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948
No. of Missionaries	6	10	6	8	3	5	7	5
No. of Native Helpers								
Assistant Pastors	3	3	0	2	3	3	1	1
Deacons	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of church members at the beginning of the year	5298	5053	1022	1111	636	776	310	413
Total number added:								
By baptism	187	144	130	86	141	124	103	124
By letter	0	....	1	0	20	8	94	...
By confession	254	325	5	4	5	8	9	16
Total number deducted:	....	....	....	....	....	147	....	...
By death	113	42	18	11	9	3	29	...
By having moved	344	....	....	119	2	....	5	....
By expulsion	229	242	19	23	....	144	2	11
Total number of members at the end of the year	5053	5238	1111	967	776	757	413	542
No. of Children consecrated	153	77	70	51	17	12	....	....
Professing Christians awaiting baptism	1308	648	400	400	1600	1191	....	1347
Marriages celebrated	57	13	4	1	19	13	23	26
No. of funerals conducted	113	42	54	64	....	7	164	52
Station service attendance:								
Sunday morning	700	690	90	321	611	659	810	558
Sunday School	650	600	....	....	509	630	....	521
Prayer Meeting	100	110	32	226	365	495	....	217
Sunday Evening	....	....	....	....	....	....	298	243
Morning Chapel	60	35	32	211	263	266	221	149
Christian Endeavor	....	....	62	174	358	391	671	243
Orphans being cared for	10	5	10	5	12	12	1	1
Communities where Word is given out regularly	156	152	132	106	....	....	43	52
Total Church offerings	32670	23420	16714.55	20080.40	34750	35695	32645	27410.15

Bible Training Class:								
Boys enrolled	57	42	20	14	87	82	17	34
Girls enrolled	....	....	0	0	....	2	....	10
No. completed curriculum	20	22	0	1	9	0	6	0
Average attendance	....	....	17	12	80	....	15	38
AGRICULTURAL DEPT.:								
No. of acres cultivated	15	15	10	6	70	50	....	....
EDUCATIONAL DEPT.:								
Natives at Station:								
Boys	38	12	165	116	125	135	80	99
Girls	18	20	30	13	63	64	65	50
No. of Regional Schools	10	10	3	0	8	8	5	5
No. of Rural Schools	146	142	43	43	92	101	36	43
Teachers in Regional Schools	12	10	6	0	24	24	19	16
Teachers in Rural Schools	156	152	43	45	92	101	37	47
Teachers in Station Schools	22	24	7	7	23	23	20	18
Average School attendance	....	....	140	....	....	385	....	....
Station Primary School	650	566	....	153	....	....	495	386
Regional Schools	540	600	170	0	250	360	270	226
Rural Schools	5400	5500	844	950	1300	1919	265	506
Total Ave. Attendance	6590	6666	1094	1103	....	2664	1330	1118
Graduations—Primary School	26	85	8	4	52	127	27	24
MEDICAL DEPT.:								
No. of native helpers	3	7	3	4	2	2	10	7
No. of new cases treated	4798	2413	4815	3327	1714	6482	6849	4869
No. hospitalized	252	416	88	196	35	98	348	807
Days of hospitalization	2016	3008	594	1417	....	2031	3492	72630
No. not hospitalized	2205	1997	4074	1015	....	6384	6452	5643
Days of treatment	20843	17392	23435	23250	18249	36906	68958	235300
Operations								
Major	....	....	....	....	....	....	35	....
Minor	149	....	155	124	240	303	102	572
Obstetrical:								
Normal	229	380	25	47	44	61	58	49
Abnormal	4	4	0	3	1	3	1	8
No. of babies born alive	230	369	24	47	41	60	53	52
No. of microscopic exams.	1979	2837	315	832	676	593	1921	1189
No. of injections given	716	1390	159	608	88	743	4982	3151
No. of deaths	8	4	6	11	3	11	79	17
No. of babies registered at the baby clinic	145	86	48	90	0	0	99	316

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Have your tools ready and God will find you work.—Sel.

Vol. XIX **September-October, 1949** **No. 5**

THE CONGO INLAND MISSION

A Co-operative Mission in the Belgian Congo

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Miss Agnes Lutke
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Rempel
Rev. and Mrs. James E. Bertsche

Bruxelles, Belgium
Rev. and Mrs. John B. Jantzen
Miss Tina Quiring

On Furlough
Miss Fanny Schmallenberger
Mrs. Frank J. Enns
Mrs. Emma Moser

Retired
Rev. and Mrs. John P. Barkman

Recently Accepted
Mr. and Mrs. Levi Keidel
Rev. and Mrs. Robert Bontrager

Address of mission and all missionaries except Mukedi Station and Mutena Station.
Charlesville, Kasai District, Congo Belge, Africa.
Cable address **Conin, Charlevsille, Congo Belge.**
Mukedi Station Address: **Mukedi, par Kikwit, District, du Kwango, Congo Belge, Africa.**
Mutena, via Tshikapa, Kasai Dist., Congo Belge, Africa.

The above missionaries represent the following religious bodies:
Mennonite General Conference (18)
Central Conference Mennonites (10)
Evangelical Mennonite Conference (15)
The Evangelical Mennonite Brethren (5)
Missionary Church Association (1)

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THE CONGO MISSIONARY MESSENGER

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CONSIDER

(Luke 10:2)

Some have gone forth far from loved ones and home,
Leaving their all for His service alone,
Counting the gain of this world only dross,
Seeking no glory save that of His cross.

Some have gone forth into darkness so dense,
Darkness that crushes, a darkness intense
There in far lands where their Lord is not known,
Gladly to work for His glory alone.

Some have gone forth with the story so old,
Reaping a harvest more precious than gold.
Are you, too, faithfully doing your share,
Helping together by gifts and by prayer?

Some have gone forth, but so many remain
Safely at home—other honors to gain;
Millions of lost ones who never have heard,
Few—oh, so few—to go forth with His Word!

—Grace E. Troy.

Editorials

PLEASE NOTE!

After September 1st, the address of the Congo Inland Mission will be 4612 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois.

* * *

ON TO BRUXELLES!

By the time the Missionary Messenger enters your home, Rev. and Mrs. John B. Jantzen and little Evelyn Ann will have arrived D.V., in Bruxelles, Belgium to study the French language. Mr. Jantzen will take the Colonial Teacher's Training Course and Mrs. Jantzen, being a registered nurse, will take the Nurses' Course. Little Evelyn Ann will, no doubt, find new playmates and many new adjustments.

Miss Tina Quiring, from Mountain Lake, Minnesota, will also be traveling to Bruxelles this Fall, also taking the Teacher's Training Course, preparatory to her going to the Congo. This course has become a requirement by the Belgium government, in order to teach in our schools there.

Our prayers accompany these young people as they continue to prepare for the work to which God has called them. They go forth with joy, knowing they are in His will for their lives.

* * *

MUTENA'S NEW RECRUITS

Rev. and Mrs. Samuel Entz, from Newton, Kansas, will soon be setting sail for the Congo, and will be stationed at Mutena. Rev. Entz will find his time more than filled, engaging in the work of evangelism and since he has, as an assignment during the war, the care of many army trucks, this training, as a mechanic, will give him many other duties on the Station. Mrs. Entz is a registered nurse and will find more than an abundance of duties waiting for her. Since our missionaries are our representatives in this great field of service, may we assure them that our prayers are following them, not only daily, but constantly, as they serve as unto Him, yet in our stead.

* * *

TO WHERE NEXT!

In a few weeks, Rev. and Mrs. James E. Bertsche and Miss Irma Beitler, R.N., who have spent the past year in Bruxelles, will be leaving there for the Congo. The Lord has been gracious in all of their needs and it is with anticipation and real joy that they set sail for their final journey, to the land of many needs. The Bertsches will be stationed at Mukedi and Miss Beitler at Charlesville. "God bless you and keep you and grant you revery need supplied" is our sincere wish and prayer as they go forth "in Jesus' Name."

* * *

ON FURLOUGH

Miss Fanny Schmallenberger is thoroughly enjoying her time of furlough and rest. She arrived home early this summer after a long term in the Congo serving at Mutena Station. We are happy to say that her health is good and with this year of rest and of seeing loved ones and friends again, she will be enthusiastically looking forward to returning to the field of God's choice for her. She is now accepting some speaking appointments and for her sake, we are concerned that most of these be made and filled before the chill blasts of our winter weather arrive. May the blessings to her and us be mutual as she tells of the needy field in Africa.

* * *

LUKE 10:2

Our missionaries had been telling us so often of the need of young couples for our Congo work. There seemed to be such a lack of these workers. By faith, some of us have been led to heed the admonition given us in the

(Continued on page 19)

Letters from the Field

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP FROM AGANETHA FRIESEN, R. N.

Dear Friends:

"My grace is sufficient for thee."

During the past few weeks these words have been a great blessing to me and too the thought that this is not our work but that it is the Lord's and He wants us to just be willing instruments in His hand. Easter has come and gone. We had expected to have services every evening that people might realize anew and to many that they might realize for the first time that Christ died and arose just for us sinful human beings. This is the rainy season and we had rain almost every evening or afternoon. We had two services and the third we started but were dismissed because of a hard rain. The iron roofs are a great blessing to protect from fires and the like but when it rains hard one is unable to understand what is spoken. During the services that we were able to have, several came to accept Christ as Saviour and many came to make things right, realizing that when sin separates us from God one can not have the joy that one would wish to have. We praise the Lord for these precious souls, perhaps you dear friends were praying for these.

We were very happy for the short visit that the doctor and his family paid us. Many of the natives mentioned that it was only too short a visit. There are a number of people that need operations and they would much prefer to have the mission doctor operate on them. In His own time we know that He will also send us a doctor to help us here for He has promised to hear and answer our prayers and He has never failed us yet. The medical work has been very heavy at times, often we have over 200 people that come to us during the day. Many of the Bashilele people have been helped and we have many of them coming to us every week with various ailments, most generally they have intestinal parasite and malaria. We have seen some of these children pass as high as 60 round worms following one treatment. Is it any wonder that these children look so undernourished and anemic. Just this evening, it was after 5 o'clock, closing time, I was sitting feeding a baby at the hospital and a woman walked in carrying a child perhaps 5 or 6 years old. The mother had a raffia cloth around her waist and the child was naked. The child had two strings on its body, the one around its neck and the other one on her shoulder and under the arm. We asked the mother what the meaning of the strings, on the one they had tied some kernel and on the other one two pieces of a gourd. Then we also noticed that the child had a number of cuts on its chest and on the upper abdomen on the left side. She told us that the native medicine around her neck was because the child complained of pain in the abdomen and that was to help her; the one around and under the arm was because the child's heart beat so hard and fast. Upon further examination and questioning the mother told us that the child had passed several worms. The spleen was greatly enarged so we knew that she had malaria. The child is very weak and anemic so she will have to be built up physically before we will be able to treat her for the intestinal parasites. How often we realize that we are unable to cope with the many ailments of these people but again we realize anew that it is His work and what He requires is faithfulness.

Several weeks ago we had the joy of seeing the new hospital beds being put into use in our Maternity hospital. What a difference it makes in the appearance of the whole hospital. At first when the women looked at the beds they said that they did not want to sleep on them with their babies. The beds are much higher than they are used to sleeping generally and when the mother has a new baby she generally sleeps on a mat or a low native

bed. However, when they saw that the springs gave to the weights of their bodies they gladly changed to the new beds. Now we hope that we will be able to keep the hundreds of visitors out that used to come and disturb the sleep of the mothers and their babies. In these beds there are not so many places for these visitors to hide and become regular boarders. Again we want to thank each one of you that had a part in making it possible for us to have these fine beds.

The last few days of March we had the busiest time at the hospital that we have ever had, there were seven babies that came to gladden the homes of seven families in less than twelve hours. It kept the two of us quite busy all day. At that time I had one day nurse and because the night nurse was on vacation we were busy. We had much to be thankful for that the Lord undertook for them all and all babies and mothers got along just fine. It is at times like this that we realize that the Lord does give added strength when He gives us the work to perform. What a great privilege it is but also a great responsibility when one thinks of the many that hear the Gospel for the first time when they come to us. As we work together, you on your knees and we on our feet and knees, may we see many souls brought into the fold.

Yours for souls in Congo,

Aganetha Friesen.

* * *

YOU CAN

If you cannot cross the ocean
And the Heathen lands explore
You can find the heathen nearer you,
You can help them at your door.

If you cannot give your thousands,
You can give the widow's mite,
And the least you do for Jesus,
Will be precious in His sight.

With your prayers and with your bounties
You can do what God demands.
You can be like faithful Aaron,
Holding up the prophet's hands.

Selected.

GRADUATION AT NYANGA

By the Toews

Dear Friends,

We bring to you the news of the Graduation Exercises of the Bible School of Nyanga. The graduation activities proper, started a week ago Saturday, when the illustrious seniors prepared their banquet. I mean the Africans prepared the dishes and delicacies of their feast. It was not prepared for them by the missionaries—for they might not know the best ways of flavoring these Africans' food.

In the morning a pig and a goat were butchered. A wash tub and boiler owned by the missionary were used to wash and boil the meat. An African feast spells **MEAT.** School tables were carried out to the lawn near the Toews' house. The tables were washed with strong soap and kerosene to kill living creatures as well as to chase away the dirt and ink which had accumulated in the school rooms.

At about 4:30 p.m. the white clothed Africans began to appear. Each one brought his own service, such as a soup dish, a fork or spoon. A glass or cup was brought for water, as well as a kettle or bottle with water. The busy hands of the committee scooped out the meat and juice into the dishes of the banqueteers.

Several songs were sung by the group as a fitting opening. Then Sha Pulu, one of the African leaders, gave a short talk. Mr. Enns represented the missionary group, giving a short speech also.

On Sunday afternoon, Miss Quiring gave a message to the graduating class, on Courage in the Lord's Work. The group sang two special numbers, one of them being "Steal Away to Jesus," in Kipende.

On Monday morning the group of thirty-three graduates marched into the church, which was already well filled with school children and adults. Their motto which had been printed by a fellow Christian was well displayed in front of the church. The motto read: Ps. 18:18. The Lord is my **stay.**

The theme of the motto was carried out in the numbers in song as well as in the message by Milonga Samuel. The third special musical number was rendered as

the graduates knelt on the platform and sang, "I Will Be True to Thee." The second verse in Kipende has a meaning similar to the English,

Tho' it may cost me friends and home,
I will be true to Thee;
Cause me in lands afar to roam,
I will be true to Thee.

The service was closed with the singing of the song "One with the Lord" translated from the Moody School Song.

The diplomas were given out by Mr. Toews, who had charge of the Bible School.

John G. Paton, pioneer missionary to New Hebrides Islands, wrote in his autobiography his observation that those who spoke against missions by saying "There are heathen at home," neglected these home heathen themselves and ungrudgingly spent more on a party, concert, ball, or theatre, etc.—ten times more in a day than they gave in a year or one-half a lifetime for the conversion of the heathen.

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MISSIONARIES ARE YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Those whom you have commissioned, the official heads of your church, have sent them forth for you. They are your proxies. When you joined the church, you made its enterprises yours, and assumed responsibilities for them. You became a partner in a business—the greatest business in the world.

If your missions of your denomination fail or grow weak through your neglect, it is as great a disgrace as for you to become partner and bankrupt in any other business to which you have made yourself a partner.

The missionary call will not be heard if we fill our ears with the clamor of earth's business and pleasures. It was heard in Antioch as they fasted and prayed and ministered to the Lord.—Peloubet.

NEWSY NEWS FROM CHARLESVILLE

Dear Ones in Christ,

This is the season of commencements and last days of school in Congo as well as in America. We had two young graduates in our C.I.M. family this year. Paul Toews graduated from High School at Lubondai and Wilbur Sprunger finished his eighth year there. Jonathan Yoder arrived home from his first term at Sakeji in Northern Rhodesia on May 16, and we believe he has had quite a profitable term of schooling there.

It's vacation time for the African children here at Charlesville too, school having closed for the first semester on May 31. That afternoon already a large number of them wrapped up their few belongings in a knapsack or small wooden valise and started out on the long trip home. They like to go to their own villages to visit their relatives and friends and also to get money to pay for books, etc., for the next term. Their vacation days will be short this year as the government demands longer school terms. This is bad news for those especially, who come in from distant villages. Their feet will no more than be rested from the trip home and they will have to begin the journey back. Classes will again meet on July 4.

Miss Friesen has a new little "chocolate drop" to look after these days. He's not really an orphan for his family does love him and helps to care for him but his mother died quite suddenly several weeks ago and he is only six months old. He has a sweet little smile that wins a place for him in everybody's heart. The father is a graduate from our Bible School and has been suffering for several years with an eye infection. Our hearts go out to him for his burden is great, but we rejoice to know that he is trusting in the Lord who is "our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Will you not remember these African brothers before the Father's throne that they might be strong in Him in the time of trouble. There are many heathen customs connected with mourning and many of our Christians find it difficult to break away from them. It was quite a contrast to go from this home into another where a heathen man had

died. His two wives were sitting on the dirt floor, their nearly naked bodies covered with dirt for they do not bathe during the time of mourning. The room was full of other women who had come to join with them in their wailing. They agreed to be quiet long enough for us to give them a few words from the Word of God and to pray. How we do praise the Lord for His Word and for the Holy Spirit, for without Him we can do nothing.

We have had several visits lately from Mr. Tungo and Mr. Vanderbrachen who have a palm oil industrty near here. They have come to the church services on Sunday morning and have spent the day with the missionaries here. They seem to enjoy these visits a great deal and we are glad for these contacts. Will you pray with us that our contacts with the white people in the Congo—government officials and company men alike—will be such that they, too, may be won for Christ. Our lack of fluency in the French language is a serious handicap to us. We are hoping that we may be able to organize a class in French when Miss Beitler arrives on the field.

We are happy to report that four of our buildings now have new shingle roofs and rafters are being put on others in preparation for shingles. We are hoping to get the school buildings covered before school begins in July. We are truly grateful for this, as these roofs have been needed for so long. I suppose it sometimes seems that there are many missionaries on the field now, but if you could be here you would soon see that more laborers are needed. For instance, in the matter of shingling, it is necessary first to gather the logs which were cut in the forest and then to saw them into shingles before they can be put on. The shingle machine which Rev. Graber brought out with him is a great blessing and will help to provide permanent roofs at a minimum cost but it requires a missionary's time to run it. The natives are not accustomed enough to the workings of machinery to be put in charge of it without supervision. We are grateful to the diamond company for an old engine which furnishes the power for this machine.

The past few weeks we have enjoyed Sunday evening broadcasts of testimony and song from the church tower. Rev. Schnell's public address system has already proved to be a great blessing and wonderful means of reaching hundreds with the precious Word of God. The messages and songs are plainly heard in villages a mile around as the natives sit in their yards about the fire. Some across the river purposely come nearer in order to hear.

Rev. Rocke recently spent a week visiting the villages around the diamond mining camps between Charlesville and Tshikapa about sixty-five miles from here. We praise the Lord for the young man who went out with his wife and three children to work in the camp at Makumbi. He has a marvelous opportunity but his task will not be easy. The teachers who preceded him have failed the Lord and brought reproach on His cause because they stole money from the church offerings of the Christians in the camp. There are about five hundred workers in this one camp with many others like it near-by which have no Protestant teacher. The Camp school teachers are paid by the Forminiere Company, and, as yet, only Catholic teachers have been allowed to teach. Thus we praise the Lord for this opening and the permission for our teacher to have a school and to hold religious services in this camp. The Belgian in charge of this particular place was very friendly and cooperated with us. They are not all so generous and reasonable as he. Pray much that this new teacher may be faithful to the Master in this ripened field.

I must close, but not before telling you about the birthday cakes. We had two of them in May. Although Marilyn Schnell's birthday is on May 20 she patiently waited for her cake until Carolyn came home from Lubondai. So on Saturday evening, May 28, we had a celebration on the lawn of the Yoder home. Our menu consisted of native food with greens and chicken to celebrate the weddings of four young couples who were married in the church that afternoon and cake and ice cream to celebrate Marilyn's birthday. We were happy to have the Toews family with us on this happy occasion. On Sunday evening, the

twenty-ninth, we had more cake and ice cream. Some of you will know the reason why. We do thank you all for your kind remembrances on such occasions as these and for your faithful prayers on our behalf. May the Lord richly bless each one of you as you labor for Him.

Yours in His service,

Frieda Guengerich.

LOOKING FOR GOD

If we noticed little pleasures,
As we notice little pains,
If we quite forgot our losses,
And remembered all our gains,
If we looked for people's virtues,
And their faults refused to see,
What a comfortable and happy,
Cheerful place this world would be.

TELL HIM NOW!

If with pleasure you are viewing
Any work a man is doing,
If you like him or you love him—
Tell him now!
Don't withhold your approbation
'Til the parson makes oration,
And he lies with snowy lilies o'er his brow.

For no matter how you shout it,
He won't really know about it,
He won't know how many teardrops you have shed.
If you think some praise is due him,
Now's the time to slip it to him,
For he cannot read his tombstone when he's dead.

More than fame and more than money,
Is the comment, bright and sunny,
And the hearty, warm approval of a friend;
For he gives to life a savor,
And makes your struggle braver,
And it gives you heart and spirit to the end.

If he earns your praise, bestow it;
If you like him, let him know it:
Let the words of true encouragement be said;
Do not wait 'til life is over,
And he's underneath the clover,
For he cannot read his tombstone when he's dead.

—Osseco News.

THE MONTH OF JUNE AT MUTENA

Dear Co-Labourers in the Homeland,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

The month of June has quickly drawn to a close but we will relate some of its happenings.

The first week of this month we had special services, with Muazemba Pierre, Assistant Pastor from Nyanga station as our guest speaker. Mornings he gave inspirational messages to our outstation teacher-evangelists who were with us at that time. The speaker's topics were well chosen and if our teacher-evangelists remember to do as they were instructed they will be greatly rewarded in their work in many ways. In the evenings our speaker gave evangelistic messages which were simple but very impressive. His main theme throughout the week was "Salvation and How to Obtain It." We praise the Lord for answering prayer, souls were saved and others renewed into fellowship with the Lord. The closing service was held on the 12th of June when we had baptismal and child dedication services.

One Saturday night we had a double wedding in our Chapel. Two outstation teacher-evangelists who were widowers married two girls from our girls' home. We were happy to see these young men marry girls that would be able to help them in their work. Having been in the girls' home and in school for some time they had received instructions such as the village girls never receive. Both of them are capable of helping with the women's and children's work as well as being an example of a Christian mother in the home. It is our prayer that they might apply themselves and be real witnesses for their Lord and Saviour.

One day we received word that the husband of one of our faithful women had gone on a journey and before reaching his destination became ill and died. This mother had been a faithful attendant at all services and came with generous weekly offerings to our mothers' services as well as bringing in her tithes at harvest time. We were impressed by her faithfulness and sincerity; but now what would she do? Her husband had died and left her with

six children and the seventh to be born only a week after his death. Frequently she was visited, comforted and encouraged to be a true witness at this trying time of death and mourning, when so many fail and enter into heathenish practices. She has been a faithful witness to those about her in that she did not enter into the mourning customs of the heathen. A few months before his death, her husband accepted Christ and she believed he was really born again which gave her much comfort. We praise the Lord for faithful, God-fearing, African mothers. Pray with us for them that the Lord might uphold them by His strength, that they will be real witnesses to the others who are still in darkest heathen superstition.

Another day a woman desperately ill and a stranger was found in the path of a near-by village. She was brought into the mission compound and cared for by the medical deparment. One of our elderly mothers came to stay with her and provided her with the best of food. At our mothers' service it was decided that since this woman was a stranger and had no one to help her her expenses would be paid by the mothers. We were most happy to see the mothers so willing to help a stranger, which is entirely against their customs. Strangers and especially when they are ill are cast out of the village to care for themselves.

May the Lord grant that more of our African Christians may become burdened for their own people and show to them the fruits of the Spirit.

Your co-workers in Congo,

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer J. Dick and Family.

ARRESTED!

"Will a man rob God?"

A member entered the church one Sunday morning just in time to hear his pastor announce for his text, "Will a man rob God?" Having heard about all he cared on tithing he immediately withdrew from the service and went to another church. But lo, upon his entry there, the first words to greet his ears were—

"Ye have robbed me."—**Selected.**

SPECIAL MEETINGS AT MUTENA

Dear Readers of Congo Messenger,

Greetings in Jesus' Name.

Just a few days and our school vacation will be over and the children will be coming back from their vacation to begin school again.

We had had a nice term of school, and pray that those things that have been taught, as well as the learning of the Scripture and the Bible teaching which they have had will bear fruit, even in years to come.

Just a week before school closed we had a week of special meetings. One of the Assistant African pastors of Nyanga station brought the Word of God. He also instructed our Out-School Teachers in their work, and brought very good messages about Christian living. Quite a number came forward to accept the Lord during this week. The last Sunday we had baptismal service when twenty-seven were taken into church fellowship, also a number of children were dedicated to the Lord. Also on Saturday we had a double wedding when two of the girls of our station home were married to our Out-station teachers. We wish them God's blessing as they go out to help in this great work.

We are happy at our new home at Mutena, and ask your prayers for the work as it is carried on day by day.

Thanking you for your interest in this work and may the Lord bless you as you stand back of us at home.

Yours in His Service,

Mabel Sauder.

PERFECT LOVE

Slow to suspect—quick to trust
Slow to condemn—quick to justify
Slow to offend—quick to defend
Slow to expose—quick to shield
Slow to reprimand—quick to forbear
Slow to belittle—quick to appreciate
Slow to demand—quick to give
Slow to provoke—quick to conciliate
Slow to hinder—quick to help
Slow to resent—quick to forgive

—Herald of Holiness.

MINUTE MEDITATIONS

A real way to be deceived is to think one's self more knowing than others.

* * *

A pat on the back is better any day, than a kick in the shins.

* * *

You may have the very best of recipes, but if you do not have the ingredients, they profit you nothing.

* * *

Religion is much more easily **caught** than **taught.**

* * *

If you would make progress as a Christian, apply yourself to all Scripture **and** apply all Scripture to yourself.

* * *

When you are too busy making a living, you haven't time to live as you ought.

* * *

How can we say "we believe God" and yet nothing happens?

* * *

You better drop your testimony if you aren't going to live right.

* * *

Do your personal habits honor God? Do you help or hinder those about you?

* * *

If my bad habits aren't forsaken they aren't confessed and if they aren't confessed, they can't be forgiven. And I say "I am a Christian"!

* * *

You may become blind from excessive light.

* * *

It's not what we think of God but what God thinks of us, that matters.

* * *

The place of pressure is the place of prayer.

* * *

There isn't any use trying to shine unless you take time to care for your lamp.

* * *

You had better despise the anger that is still in your heart, it will become dangerous to you.

Any friend that can be bought costs more than he is worth.

* * *

You do not need an A.B. nor B.S. to do good honest thinking.

* * *

Certainly; hats off to the past; but coats off to the future!

* * *

Yesterday's highest point of achievement is your starting point today.

* * *

Get acquainted with your neighbor, he might like you.

* * *

He who laughs, lasts.

* * *

We learn our virtues at our mother's knee—our vices at some other joint.

* * *

Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote.

* * *

Safety and good sense usually lie in the middle course.

* * *

It is only until He comes!

* * *

We will do more for Christ following fools on fire, than scholars on ice. (Dr. Robt. Lee)

* * *

You are what you are in your heart.

* * *

Jesus Christ was strong enough to be weak enough to stay on the cross when He was strong enough to save Himself.

* * *

Humility is the sensation you feel when you are being shrunk to your proper size.

* * *

How many people do you make homesick to know God?

* * *

The Bible isn't a dry book to you if you are well acquainted with the Author.

* * *

When God speaks, discussion is ended. When God is silent, discussion is useless.

VACATION TIME

Out here at Lac Madimape, it almost seems as if one can pull back the curtain to bygone centuries, and see man as he was in the time of Genesis and Exodus. The villagers from the village of Kashosha trek by on their way to the forest to hunt animals and wild game. Their bows and arrows are sharpened for the occasion. These Africans belong to the Bashielle tribe which is a very backward tribe as yet. Only sixty kilometers from the Mission Station at Charlesville Station yet hardly reached by the Gospel and civilization. Their dress consists only of loin cloths and strings of fetishes. Their houses are built of bamboo leaves tied down with strips of bamboo.

Hunting and fishing are not reserved for vacation time, but are every day occurrences. Toward evening the Africans can be seen returning with their game. One day last week they returned with one large antelope and five small ones. At other times they have been seen returning with wild pigs and horse antelopes. Occasionally an elephant is killed and then the Africans have a feast of meat.

Upon first appearances one might get the impression that these Africans live a carefree life. However, one soon finds that their existence is not a happy one. Fears fill their minds. At present the villagers are huddled together about one who is sick. Cooking is suspended, and hunting waits for another day. Wailing has already started for the African who is sick. The chief comes to the missionary to get aid. The native medicine which has been administered has done more harm than good. Will the missionary take him to Charlesville by car so that he can be treated there? And so preparations are made to take him to the Station.

Upon a certain Sunday morning we were going to the village for a service. A group of women were huddled together in a circle. One was beating the drum and the others were chanting the African tunes. In the center there was someone giving birth to her offspring. The drums beat louder as progress was being made. By and by the women dispersed, the ordeal was over, and the little black baby had arrived.

Even though life goes on in many African villages as it did centuries ago, yet to the close observer a change is slowly taking place. 'Tis true that polygamy is a common practice in the village. They still extract the two prominent front teeth as a tribal sign. The women still cut their bodies for beauty marks. There is, however, a slight change coming even to this village. Several of its boys are students at Charlesville Station. There is an African teacher in the village to teach the children and to hold services. There is already a nucleus of Christians who have professed to accept Christ as their Saviour. 'Tis true that they are weak due to gross ignorance but they respond as far as they understand. The biggest and hardest task of the missionary is to teach and to instruct them to observe all of Christ's teachings.

Mary Toews.

WHY GOD'S WORK MUST BE SUPPORTED BY GOD'S PEOPLE

"An Illinois business man took a dollar bill, pinned a piece of paper to it, asking everybody who spent the money to write down what it was for, and send it back into circulation for two weeks. At the end of the time it came back with the following story:

It was spent five times for salary.
It was spent five times for tobacco.
It was spent five times for cigarettes.
It was spent three times for candy.
It was spent twice for haberdashery.
It was spent three times for meals.
It was spent once for automobile parts.
It was spent once for groceries.
It was spent once for washing.
It was spent twice for shaves.
It was spent once for toothpaste.

"God never had a chance with that dollar.

"There are millions of other dollars that never touch the offering plate in church. Who comes first in life—God or self?"

If God wants you to go as a missionary, do not think you can excuse yourself by planning to stay at home and stirring up others. You cannot stir up others to be obedient in the very thing in which you are disobedient.

CHARLESVILLE ECHOES

June, 1949

June's the month of brides and roses, but not here. True, there are a few roses from time to time on Miss Friesen's bushes, but May and November are the months of brides at this station. So we must look elsewhere for news.

June is definitely a different month for those of us who are in any way connected with the educational work, for it is the time of our mid-year vacation after five months of school. It will be followed with five more months of school and another month of vacation in December.

The Schnells really vacated, for they went to Lake Madimape on the first and returned on the 29th. Part of the time they were alone, but the latter part of the month they were joined by the Yoders, who are taking their annual rest while Jonathan is home from Rhodesia where he attended school. However the vacation is not complete for him for he spends some of his time with his books even at the lake. Marilyn Schnell and Leland Rocke had their school session suspended since the former was at the lake with her parents. Thus their teacher, Mrs. Rocke, also had her vacation from teaching school. Carolyn Schnell is also home from Lubondai (to the delight of her little sisters), and she is a big help to her busy mother. Our two newest prospective missionaries, little David Glenn Rocke and Russell Schnell, Jr., are growing nicely. They bring much joy to their parents and brothers and sisters, and also to their "aunties."

Two of Our Congo Orphans

Miss Guengerich and I had fairly busy days trying to catch up on various odds and ends which pile up during the school term, besides doing some housecleaning with native help, and a bit of sewing. In addition we had to begin training a new table boy, for the former one is now studying medicine at the medicine house (dispensary). Last, but not least, we tried to visit the villages more often than we can during the school months. One day we took a bicycle trip across the Kasai River (crossing it in dugout canoes). We took our lunch along, thus making an all-day affair of it. We conducted services in a number of villages. My, the people were surely glad to see us in some of those places; though in others they were not. Several women came forward, some for salvation, and others for different reasons. We wish we could go to the villages and the outstations more often than our school-mom duties allow us to go.

Those engaged part time in industrial work, Mr. Graber and Mr. Rocke, certainly had no vacation this month, for they began making brick in May and expect to continue until three kilns are done. By the end of June many thousands of them had been made and put into a kiln to await burning. When the brick are done, much time will be occupied using them up for building purposes. Some of them are for a new school building, the total cost of which has been granted by a society here in the Congo that has a large fund laid aside for such projects. Mr. Graber also made a necessary trip to Tshikapa, where he still hopes to open a new station in the near future, the Lord willing. Mr. Rocke also visited some of our outstations. He reports that a number of souls

were saved, and others returned to the Lord, for which we praise Him. How we wish we could have a new full time industrial missionary on this station so Mr. Rocke could spend much more of his time on the road in outstation work, encouraging the teachers and Christians, and preaching to the unsaved.

Man works from sun to sun, but woman's work is never done, the old saying goes. Out here the medical work is never done, for sickness strikes its victims without vacation, and the stork never takes a leave of absence. In other words, there is no let up in Miss Friesen's work from one month to the next. She will be very happy to have a new nurse stationed here to relieve her of some of her many responsibilities. June was the time when the new medical aides began their formal study of the healing art. Some are school boys. One, our former table boy, is a Bible school graduate and from the Bashilele tribe, in the midst of which we expect to open our new station at Banga whenever the Lord fully opens the way. Pray for him in particular, that he may continue on with the Lord, and be ready to help begin the medical work at Banga, should the Lord so lead.

May we encourage you all to uphold us all at the throne of grace as often as the Spirit brings us to your remembrance. We need your prayers, and so do the native leaders, teachers, etc. We also wish to repeat that the need for new workers is still great in spite of the fact that some are coming out year by year.—*Anna V. Liechty.*

I WOULD ASK JONAH

Since God's great concern is that all men come to repentance, I would like to have a talk with Jonah. I would not ask him how large the fish was that swallowed him, but how small he felt when he found that God had caught up with him. I would like to learn of his personal experiences as he walked the streets of Nineveh bleached and humiliated and reluctantly obedient. I would probe him about his criminal unconcern for the repentance of two million souls, and whether he had been able to forget that awful day when he was more concerned for his own cozy comfort behind the gourd vine, than he was that Nineveh be spared her doom. Finally I would ask Jonah if he had any possible suggestions as to:

(1) How to get our own cozy-corner Christians and "fundamental" Jonahs to forget the gourd vines of their modern comforts;

(2) How to get them concerned for today's lost millions;

(3) How to get them to preach the preaching that God bids them, viz., sin, righteousness, temperance, judgment to come.

—Selected.

David Livingstone: ". . . Anywhere . . . provided it be forward!"

ROCKE GRAMS

February, 1949

Dear Friends in the Homeland:

We take this opportunity to greet you again in the name of our Lord. At the time of this writing I am on a three weeks' itinerating trip in the northern part of our field. The work in this area is very large yet there is much room for expansion. Several days were spent visiting our Christians who work on a 10,000-acre palm oil plantation. Since nearly everyone is working during the day in these camps most of our work must be done in the evening and on into the night. During the day we work in nearby villages outside the plantation area.

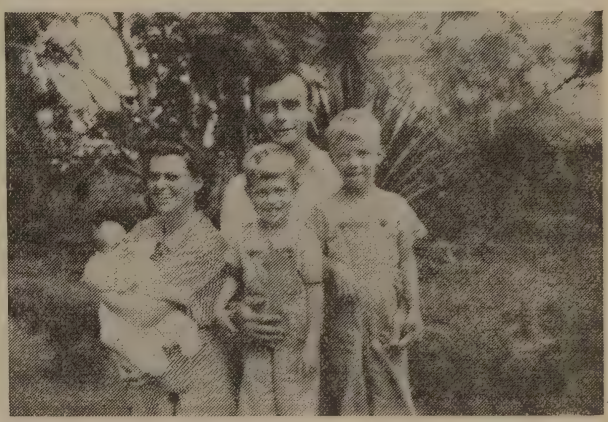
On this trip I am taking 300 ft. of movie film which I think will be enlightening and interesting to you at home in the U. S. In about 2½ years I hope that all of you will be able to see them as well as other pictures I have taken.

Our work consists of preaching, checking on the work of our native evangelists and Christians, baptismal and communion services, selling Bibles and school supplies, interviewing State and company officials, applying medicine to sores and trying to relieve minor aches and pains. To do all this we have a cook, dispensary boy, our native pastor from Charlesville and the pastor over this area.

The '47 V-8 Ford panel job is ideal for this type of work. It is large enough to carry a good supply of books and equipment and personnel. Then too, at night it is converted into a sleeping car. A folding camp cot is set up and the mosquito net which is tied to the roof is let down and all is in readiness for a night's rest with no strange, powerful odors or rats or leaky roofs to annoy one. The camp cot is not just like sleeping on an innerspring but after a day's work on the road one is glad for anything that looks like a bed.

The power of the truck four-speed transmission is also a great source of satisfaction. We have encountered a number of hills which required the double low gear. Previously these hills necessitated the unloading of equipment and all hands pushing on the rear. Twice, so far, we have used the axe and knife (which is standard car equipment in the Congo) to remove fallen trees. After a heavy rain we drove through nearly two feet of water which was over the road for at least a 100 yards.

We have shot a number of wild guineas along the road which has helped the natives conserve their chickens one or more of which usually enters the ministry when the white man and his helpers come along.



Rev. and Mrs. Glenn Rocke and their trio of boys, Leland, Darrell and little David.

It has been our joy to see nearly 100 souls respond to the preaching of the Gospel so far on this trip. Until we have finished this trip we shall have baptized around 150 people. From village to village it is a great experience to see in the faces of some the expression of joy and comprehension revealing the unmistakable fact that they know the Christ of whom we speak. But the multitudes who are in darkness and know not the Lord present to us an unspeakable challenge.

I shall be very happy to get back to Charlesville and see the little wife and children. You have no doubt heard of David Glenn who arrived October 10, 1948. Leland has begun on his school career. His classmate is Marilyn Schnell who is about six months older than he. Ina is starting them out gradually—a few hours each morning. Leland is just five and a bit young to

be starting school but since their first years of school will be a bit irregular due to the many other responsibilities which one cannot escape on a mission station . . . it is perhaps well to start a bit early.

Will you not continue to pray for the missionaries and the many Africans for whom Christ died. Pray that more laborers might come to this field. In view of the present extension and strengthening program which is under way and is so necessary at this time fifteen or more new missionaries would not be too many.

Let us thank each one who remembered us with a Christmas greeting during the recent Yuletide season.

Yours for Christ and Congo,

Glenn and family.

SUPPOSE THE BIBLE WERE GONE!

A certain man dreamed that he went to consult his Bible and found every page blank. In amazement he rushed to his neighbor's house, aroused him from his sleep, and asked to see his Bible, but when he brought the Book they found it also blank. In great consternation they sought other Bibles, with the same result. Then they said, "We will go to the libraries and from great books we will gather the quotations of Scripture, and thus remake our Bible." But when they examined all the books upon the shelves of all the libraries, they found that wherever a quotation of Scripture had been, that part of the page was blank.

When the man awoke, his brow was cold, yet covered with perspiration, so great had been his agony during the dream. Oh! how dark this world would be without the Bible! Man would be like a wretched ship dashed into mid-ocean.—**The King's Business.**

PLEASE NOTE!

After September 1st, the address of the Congo Inland Mission will be 4612 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois.

An elderly preacher's advice to a young man was, "Eat less of the tree of knowledge and more of the tree of life."

IF I WERE A PASTOR

Missionary Giving by the Church*

By Ralph T. Davis

If I were a pastor I would study very carefully the matter of the church's contributions to missions. It is probable that in no other realm is there such difference of opinon as when it comes to the disbursements of funds for missions. This may be because it is in this realm that ownership enters in to a greater degree than in any other, so much so that frequently donors do not cease to control the gift that has left their hands.

Perhaps this giving touches hearts more than other aspects of the work, and often the giving is sacrificial. My contention here is that the time to show concern is before the dollar is given. When the missionary committee can so assure the members of the church that their money is being protected and is being sent only to sound, same missions, most of the difficulties in this line are ended.

The committee must decide whether the yearly contributions to missionary purposes will be dispensed sparingly to many interests or substantially to a few. When the over-all expenditures involved in sending out and maintaining a missionary in a foreign field reach hundreds of dollars a year, it stands to reason that the lesser gifts of ten to twenty-five dollars, or even more, do not begin to support him if he receives one or two such gifts during the year. If, however, he receives a number of such gifts, because the committee decides to concentrate the giving, he may have his support fairly well cared for, with blessing to recipient and donor.

There is blessing to a church that fully supports a worker. Not only is the money accomplishing something, but those who give feel they have a vital connection with the worker who goes to the field. I believe each church should support its own workers. The church that sees its own members go to the field supported by other churches misses the blessing that might belong to it. And the church that gives constantly to outsiders is robbing the home centers of those workers of a blessing. There may be exceptions, but if I were a pastor, these principles would be my guide.

If I were a pastor, I would arrange that some acknowledgement, by simple receipt at least, be given at all times, and I believe that a large chart indicating comparative giving is helpful. The chart might be a graph in colors progressing month by month and showing one year against the preceding.

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*Third in a series of six articles on the missionary activity of the pastor and his church.

A wise man once said: "If someone has wronged you and you get revenge, you will be pleased for an instant. If you forgive him, you will be happy forever."—**Sel.**

HORSE SENSE

A horse can't pull while kicking,
And he can't kick while pulling.
This fact I merely mention,
Which is my chief contention.
Let's imitate the good old horse
And live a life that's fitting;
Just pull an honest load, and then
There'll be no time for kicking.

THE REALLY POOR MAN

A man is poor—
If he is without friends.
If he has a guilty conscience.
If he has lost his grip upon himself.
If he is selfish, uncharitable or cruel.
If his mind and soul have been neglected.
If he has traded away his character for money.
If his wife and family do not love and respect him.
If worldliness has caused him to lose fellowship with Christ.
If making money has crowded out the cultivation of his spiritual life.
If love of money has hardened him until the love of Christ and His Gospel does not stir him to do his best for missions.
If all his investments and possessions are laid up on earth and he has no treasures in Heaven.—**Watchman-Examiner.**

MUTENA GRAMS
By Lois Slagle R.N.

One Paragraph Hymn Stories

To aid in creating a better interest in our Young People's Meetings on Sunday afternoons we have made an attempt to vary the type of program. One Sunday we built the program around the theme of three well-known hymns which the Africans use frequently in their services, here. The stories of how these hymns came to be written were translated and given to three young men. They were instructed to study the stories and then relate the facts in their own words to the audience. There were many questions relative to the stories. Were they to read it first to the audience and then tell it to them in their own words, one inquired. Another suggested the advisability of relating only one paragraph, for he felt the entire story was too long.

We had thought that everything had been fully explained and that the questions had been answered. However, during the course of the service, it became evident that theirs was a new way of relating hymn stories. The first speaker arose, and after an introduction related very well the first paragraph of the story. We were satisfied that they had grasped the idea, when suddenly the speaker stopped in the middle of the story and began to sermonize and express his thoughts relative to the message of the song. He never did complete the narration of how the hymn came to be written. The second and third speakers did likewise. Not one completed his story. We came away from the service wondering just what the whole thing had meant to the Africans. To our surprise, there were a number of favorable comments on the one-paragraph hymn stories. Several requested another service of this type. However, before we attempt a service of this kind again, additional instructions will be given.

An Airport Service

Laws governing the Forminiere Diamond Mines in our territory have prohibited the missionary from entering the camps for the purpose of conducting religious services. This necessitated having services a distance from the camp. This year as Rev. Dick was making his itinerary in the

vicinity of Tshikapa, the proper white authorities were consulted relative to a place to conduct the services for the benefit of those who were working in Tshikapa. They appeared to be very sympathetic to his request and granted him the permission to conduct the meeting in the modern, tropically designed building of the Sabena Airways. This was a very kind gesture on the part of the authorities. Word was quickly circulated among the Africans concerning the service and at the appointed hour a large group had assembled. The interior of the building was too small to house the crowd which had come, but the cement pavement in front of the building proved to be an ideal place for worship. Again God has gone before and opened the door that His Word might go forth.

An African Mother's Heartache

The rain had stopped, but it still was very cool. Shortly before the service with the African Committee came to a close at nine that evening, I was called to the maternity ward. A young mother had given birth to a premature infant about four hours previously on the path. Since its birth, she had been on her way to the hospital here. They lived some distance from the station. She was hoping that we would be able to save the little one's life. However after having spent the first four hours of its life in the cold night air, without the protection of any clothing, the prospects for its survival were not good. The infant's respiration was very difficult. It was immediately placed in a basket, which had been heated with hot water bottles. However, at 2 a.m. the little life flickered out. The mother insisted that she must return home with the dead baby at once. We tried to persuade her to at least wait until daybreak, but she declared that she must go without delay. This was the reason she gave for her insistence. She told us that her husband would be very angry when he learned that this baby died. He had another wife but he had never had any children. Now that this child did not survive, he would be in a rage. The mother reasoned that if he had not received any word as to the child's condition before morning, he would set out for Mutena. If she should meet him in the path with the dead child, he would most certainly beat her and she feared, even kill her in his fury. If she reached the village before he left, the other men would not permit him to beat her so unmercifully. What could we do, but permit her to go? Besides the heartache of a dead child she had to fear the unjust wrath of a husband. A few weeks later when she visited the dispensary, she told us that she had reached the village in time, but she had received the anticipated beating.

A Happy Surprise

Our conference reports had been written, and we were on our way to the Neufelds for a station meeting. There we were to read our reports to each other, and the necessary corrections were to be made. Just as we were locking our door a car drove in. We supposed that it was either some of the Forminiere officials who occasionally pay us a call—or a government official. However, across the compound we could hear the voices of English speaking people. We concluded that our guests must be missionaries. Presently through the darkness, we saw two people making their way toward our house. Great was our surprise and joy when we learned that Lodema had returned from Lubondai about ten days before we had expected her. An epidemic at the school necessitated the termination of the semester at this earlier date. We were very happy to have her back with us on the Mutena Station.

SOLEMN SUMMARY OF LIFE

Tender Teens
Teachable Twenties
Tireless Thirties
Fiery Forties
Forceful Fifties
Serious Sixties
Sacred Seventies
Feeble Eighties
Shortening Breath
Death
The Sod
God.

—Selected.

EDITORIALS

(*Continued from page 4*)

scripture passage of Luke 10:2 and brought this matter again and again to the Lord of the harvest. He never fails, no, Jesus never fails. During these past two years, there have been six young couples who presented themselves and been accepted by the C. I. M. Board. The Remples, the Bertsches, the Jantzens, the Entzs, the Keidels, and the newest couple, the Robert Bontragers. One couple is on the field, the other in Bruxelles, two others just about to sail and the two latter still in preparation. We do thank God for answering prayer. But what now? Are our obligations over? No, a thousand times no! They are really just beginning. By our prayers and our means, we must definitely support and uphold them. "We are workers together."

* * *

STILL IN DEBT?

Yes—heavily in debt. After years of payments we are still in debt. Is it through business blunders? No. Then why this debt? Because of the nature of it. A debt is that which is owing from one person to another naturally or spiritually. Our best is spiritual and holds the destiny of immortal souls. It is, therefore, the more significant. As we were allowed of God to be put in trust with a world-wide gospel, we owe it to all the world, for verily their debtors we are.

There is such a thing as blood-guiltiness. If the wicked die in wickedness for lack of a missionary word, we are guilty of his blood. If the righteous man falls into sin because we fail to warn him of his peril, we are held responsible for his fall. If the wicked or the righteous sin and die in spite of our warning, then we are not guilty. Verily to us silence may be sin; to withhold the Word of the Lord from fear or favor, is to be involved in the wickedness of the evil doers. We must not withhold the Word of Life. We believe the time has come that we must pay off our debt. For this purpose then let us rally together and as much as in us let us pray, let us speak, let us pay the last farthing until we be free from the blood of human souls.

—**H. Hildebrand,**
Caronport, Sask.

* * *

BUGLE BLASTS FROM MOODY

Why do so many workers break down? Not from overwork, but because there has been friction of the machinery; there hasn't been enough of the oil of the Spirit. Ministers who go into the pulpit and do not have the joy of the Lord do ten times more harm than good.

I had an assistant superintendent of a Sabbath school, a very promising young man. A star actor came to town and he went to see him. I knew nothing of it, but next Sunday when he came to Sunday school all over the building they cried out, "Hypocrite! Hypocrite!" I said to the boys, "whom are they calling a hypocrite?" They mentioned the assistant's name. I asked the reason and they said, "We saw him go into the theater." He lost his influence entirely and finally lost his interest in Christian work. Consecration means separation.

"Out of the knottiest timber," says Rutherford, "He can make vessels of mercy for service in the high places of glory." "I came, I saw, I conquered," says Toplady, "may be inscribed by the Saviour on every monument of grace. I came to the sinner, I looked upon him; and with a look of omnipotent love, I conquered."

I don't know anything this country needs so much as Pentecostal people. My dear friends, don't sneer at revivals. Would to God we had Pentecost repeated in every American city. What will take infidelity out of men? The fires of Pentecost, the breath of Heaven.

I was twenty years old before I ever heard a sermon on repentance. I have heard of reform, reform until I am tired and sick of the whole thing. It is separation by the power of the Holy Ghost that we need.

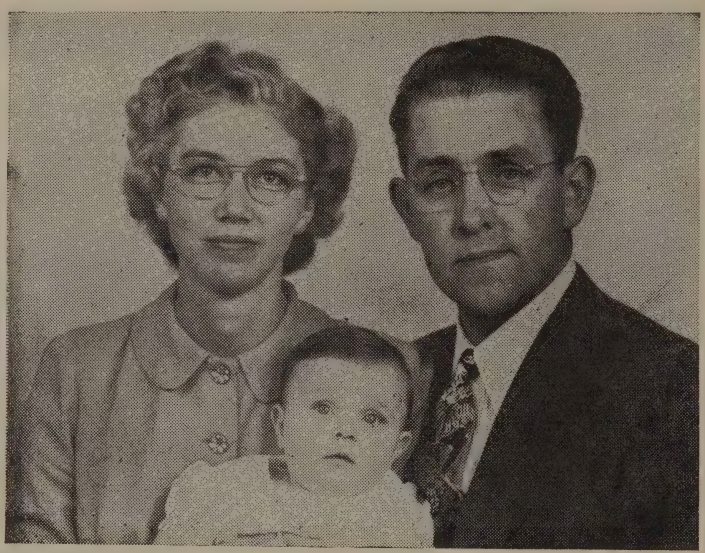
Fare-ye-well-to-our-friends

Dear Christian Friends,

We wish to express to you our sincere thanks for your intercession for us during the past weeks and months. Surely we have experienced the helping hand of the Lord as we have been preparing to leave for Belgium.

Now as the time of our sailing is very near we are filled with joy and anticipation because of the privilege which is ours to go out into the work. It is as though a new goal has been reached, another accomplishment realized. Surely that is reason enough for joy and thanksgiving. On the other hand, we anticipate new experiences of many kinds as well as new opportunities for service. What a privilege it is to be able to go out in such anticipation. Also, knowing that the Lord has called us to go and is going before us, leading us into this new field of service, is truly a source of joy and peace. Except for these facts we would not be willing to go. Now though, we must go "for the love of Christ constraineth us."

There is, however, also a sense of wonder as we look forward to going out into this great field of service. Surely we must marvel at the fact that God can use such as we are. When we look upon our human limitations and frailties, as well as our sinfulness, we wonder how it is possible for the Lord to use us. We must then ask with Moses (Ex. 3:11) "Who am I, that I should go—?" The Lord did not point out to Moses any special trait of character or any ability inherent in him which should cause the Lord to call him. He said to Moses, (Ex. 3:12) "Certainly I will be with thee." When Moses objected, claiming the unwillingness of the people to believe, God gave him a sign whereby he would be able to convince them of the authenticity of his great calling. Moses again objected by claiming lack of eloquence. The Lord reminded him of the One who had made man's mouth and was able also to give eloquence of speech. He further said, (Ex. 4:12) "Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say."



Rev. and Mrs. John B. Jantzen and Evelyn Ann.

As we go out to the Congo, we go "not with excellency of speech or of wisdom" proclaiming some new theory or even a great civilization to those needy peoples. Instead we are "determined not to know anything among (them), save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified." It is our purpose to

proclaim the great Gospel message to those people in such a simple way that they will receive it by faith and as a result receive the Gift of Eternal Life. The physical needs of those people are great, but the need of the soul is even greater. We want to do our share to meet that need.

But as we go we are surely happy that the work is not our own. It is the Lord's work, and as such, you dear friends at home, also can have a share in it with us. Truly your part in this endeavor is just as great as ours if you pray faithfully and earnestly. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." Therefore, let us work together faithfully in the great cause of spreading the Gospel message throughout the whole world.

Yours for the lost in the Congo,

John and Anne Jantzen, and Evelyn Ann.

A LOVELY FAMILY LETTER TO FRIENDS

July 23, 1949
Lac Madimape

Dear Friends,

We are sending a letter from the Toews family. We are enjoying a vacation at Lake Madimape. Last Sunday toward sundown we went down to the Lake and had a little singspiration while rowing on the small boat at the Lake. The trumpet sounded like a call to worship as we glided along the Lake. The mouth harps also came in for some music, as well as the guitar. "Day is Dying in the West" was sung with greater meaning as darkness began to fall over the quiet Lake. Yes, one needs times of rest and meditation even out here in the Congo.

Paul was graduated from High School at Lubondai in May. He will be going back to Nyanga Station with us to help us with the work. In the month of June he was already helping us by teaching in the Africans' school. He can also help with the music.

Carol will be going to Central School again in another week or so. She will be in the second year of High School. While she was with us at the Station she helped by playing the organ for the daily entrance of the Day School students. She also did most of the sewing for her wardrobe for the next term of school.

Yours in Him,

M. Toews.

* * *

Dear Friends,

Our family is spending a vacation at Lake Madimape during our school vacation. The scenery is most delightful here and the Lake is an ideal place for swimming. It's really wonderful to have a change from school lessons once in a while.

The other morning I accompanied Aunt Betty (Mrs. Yoder) to the village of Kashosha to give worm treatments. It was quite early in the morning and the forest was beautiful. In the atmosphere was the scent of wild flowers and the sound of different birds.

Soon we were at the village and at the house of the medical helper in this district. Aunt Betty opened her work with prayer and then began to give out the medicine. One child that I remember distinctly had her eyes and cheeks so swollen that she could not take worm treatment but was refused and given other medicine. Another tiny baby had some native medicine around her neck and when Mrs. Yoder said it would do no good, the mother took it off.

Although I am only the child of a missionary already I can see what a great work this is out here among the thousands of Africans who live in darkness full of superstitions and fears.

Yours,

Carol Toews.

* * *

Dear Christian Friends,

Our Sundays here at the Lake are spent in having services in the near-by villages.

Last Sunday about 7:00 a.m., we started out for the village about one mile from the Lake. Upon arriving, we found the native men getting ready for a hunting trip, but had them first come to the service. The calling of the people was next and the rounds of the village were soon made. We also found in the village a sick man whom we had taken by car to Charlesville the week before. He was back in the village because his father wanted to give him med-

icine from the graveyard, instead of giving him medicine from the missionaries. Mrs. Yoder talked to him about Christ, but as far as we know he did not accept Christ, at least not at that time. The worst part of it was that we heard yesterday that he had died.

When the service was started, one of the African boys and Mrs. Yoder who knows the dialect in these whereabouts, spoke. There was also singing in the Tshiluba language. Later five men came forward and the missionaries and African workers had prayer with them, and dealt with them according to their needs. This closed a Sunday morning service in the village.

Yours,

Paul Toews.

* * *

Dear Christian Friends,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. May 26 was the day set for the graduation exercises at Central School for Missionaries' Children. Since Paul was among the High School graduates we decided to go to see him graduate.

On May 24, Tuesday, we left Nyanga about 6:20 a.m. We ate our lunch by the roadside and arrived at Mboi at about 3:00 in the afternoon. On Wednesday, May 25, we left Mboi about 8:00 in the morning and all went well, until we were within about ten miles of Lubondai when a goat jumped out of the grass on to the road of the car and smashed into the windshield. It was fortunate that we had shatterproof glass or else some of us might have been cut badly by flying glass.

When we were about two or three miles from Lubondai, Paul and Billy MacWatt, whose mother was in the car with us, came on bicycles to meet us.

Thursday evening was the time for the graduation. There were seven High School graduates and five Grade School graduates. Friday morning was the time for taking pictures and then we soon found ourselves again on the road. On our return trip we stopped at Tshimbulu and Luluabourg in order to do some shopping, and we spent the night at the A.P.C.M. Station at Luluabourg. Saturday morning we again started out and after quite a wait at the Ferry, finally got across and went on our way again. When we came to the Kasai River, the cable on the ferry was broken so the Africans had to paddle us across. We arrived safely at Charlesville about four o'clock in the afternoon. We were just in time for a wedding feast of "Bidia" and "Matamba," (native mush and greens).

We spent an enjoyable Sunday with the Charlesville missionaries and then returned to Nyanga again on Monday.

Yours for the Lost in Africa,

Henry A. Toews.

PLEASE NOTE!

After September 1st, the address of the Congo Inland Mission will be 4612 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois.

If you would know God's will for tomorrow, you must be obedient today.

The Lord not only needs you but He also needs your boat. Luke 5:2-3.

I KNOW SOMETHING GOOD ABOUT YOU

Wouldn't this old world be better,
If the folks we meet would say:—
"I know something good about you,
And would treat us just that way.

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy,
If each handclasp warm and true,
Carried with it this assurance:—
I know something good about you.

Wouldn't things here be more pleasant,
If the good that's in us all,
Were the only thing about us,
That folks bothered to recall.

Wouldn't life be lots more happy,
If we'd praise the good we see,
For there's lots and lots of goodness,
In the worst of you and me.

Wouldn't it be nice to practice,
This fine way of thinking, too;
You know something good about me,
I know something good about you.

—Ohio Farmer.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts for months of April, May, June and July, 1949. From Central, E.M.C., E.M.B. and General Mennonite Conference.

Central—	
Missionary Allowances	$1197.68
Evangelistic	137.50
Educational	140.14
Medical	100.75
Passage	40.22
General	7286.56
Special:—	
Hospital at Mukedi	750.00
Hospital Beds	500.00
Bashilele	1000.00
Memorial Literature Fund	55.48
Milk for Native Children	7.80
Toews' House	10.00
Personal for Miss Lois Slagle	25.00
Total Central	$11,251.13
E. M. C.—	
Missionary Allowances	$3437.77
Evangelistic	974.19
Medical	300.00
Clothing	219.85
General	6063.18
Special:—	
Bashilele	1342.74
Personal for Rev. James Bertsche	18.00
Dominican Republic—	
General	$1691.65
Total E. M. C.	$14,047.38
E. M. B.—	
Missionary Allowances	$ 816.17
Operating Budget	722.22
Insurance Premiums	118.25
Education Missionaries	182.01
Passage	133.09
Special:—	
Personal for Miss Aganetha Friesen	12.00
Total E. M. B.	$1983.74
General Men. Con.—	
Missionary Allowances	$4285.05
Evangelistic	175.07
Operating Budget	2121.85
Insurance Premiums	756.95
Outfit Allowances	250.00
Special:—	
Personal for Miss Anna H. Quiring	104.48
Personal for Rev. E. J. Dick	78.68
Personal for Rev. F. J. Enns	57.96
Personal for Rev. Geo. B. Neufeld	21.55
Personal for Rev. H. A. Toews	51.74
Personal for Rev. V. J. Sprunger	10.00
Total General	$7913.33
Other than Central, E.M.C., E. M. B., and General Mennonite Conferences:—	
Missionary Allowances	$ 481.25
Evangelistic	202.00
General	152.00
Promotional	1.00
C. I. M. History	11.25
Special:—	
Refund on Ins. and Taxes for automobiles	83.13
Personal for Miss Kornelia Unrau	59.41
Total Other than, etc.,	$ 990.04
Total Receipts	$36,185.62

PLEASE NOTE!

After September 1st, the address of the Congo Inland Mission will be 4612 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois.

"THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME." Exodus 20:3

If you find yourself beginning to love any **pleasure** better than your prayers; any **book** better than your Bible; any **house** better than **God's house;** any **table** better than the **Lord's table;** any **person** better than **Saviour;** any **person** better than your **soul;** any **present indulgence** better than the **hope of heaven**—you have plenty of reasons for—**Alarm!**

Only a seed—but it chanced to fall
In a little cleft of a city wall,
And taking root grew bravely up,
Till a tiny blossom crowned its top!

Only a thought—but the work it wrought
Could never by tongue or pen be taught,
For it ran thru a life, like a thread of gold,
And the life bore fruit a hundred-fold!

Only a word—but 'twas spoken in love,
With a whispered prayer to the Lord above;
And the angels in heaven rejoiced once more,
For a new-born soul "entered in by the Door"!

—The Christian.

Beware of the barrenness of a too busy life.

PLENTY OF REASONS TO GO BACK TO THE CONGO

ON FURLOUGH

Let us go back! We are homesick
For the land of our love and toil.
Though we thrill at the sight of our native hills,
The touch of our native soil,
Thank God for the dear home country,
Unconquered and free and grand!
But the far off shores of Africa, for us
Are the shores of the Promised Land.

Our brain is dazed and wearied
With the New World's stress and strife,
With the race for money and place and power;
And the whirl of the nation's life.
Let us go back! Such pleasures
And pains are not for us;
But oh! for a share in the Harvest Home
Of the fields beyond the seas.

For there are our chosen people,
And that is our place to fill,
To spend the rest of our lives and strength
In doing our Master's will.
Let us go back! 'Tis nothing
To suffer and to dare:
For the Lord has faithfully kept His word.
He is with us always there!

Matt. 28:19, 20 —*Mary E. Albright*

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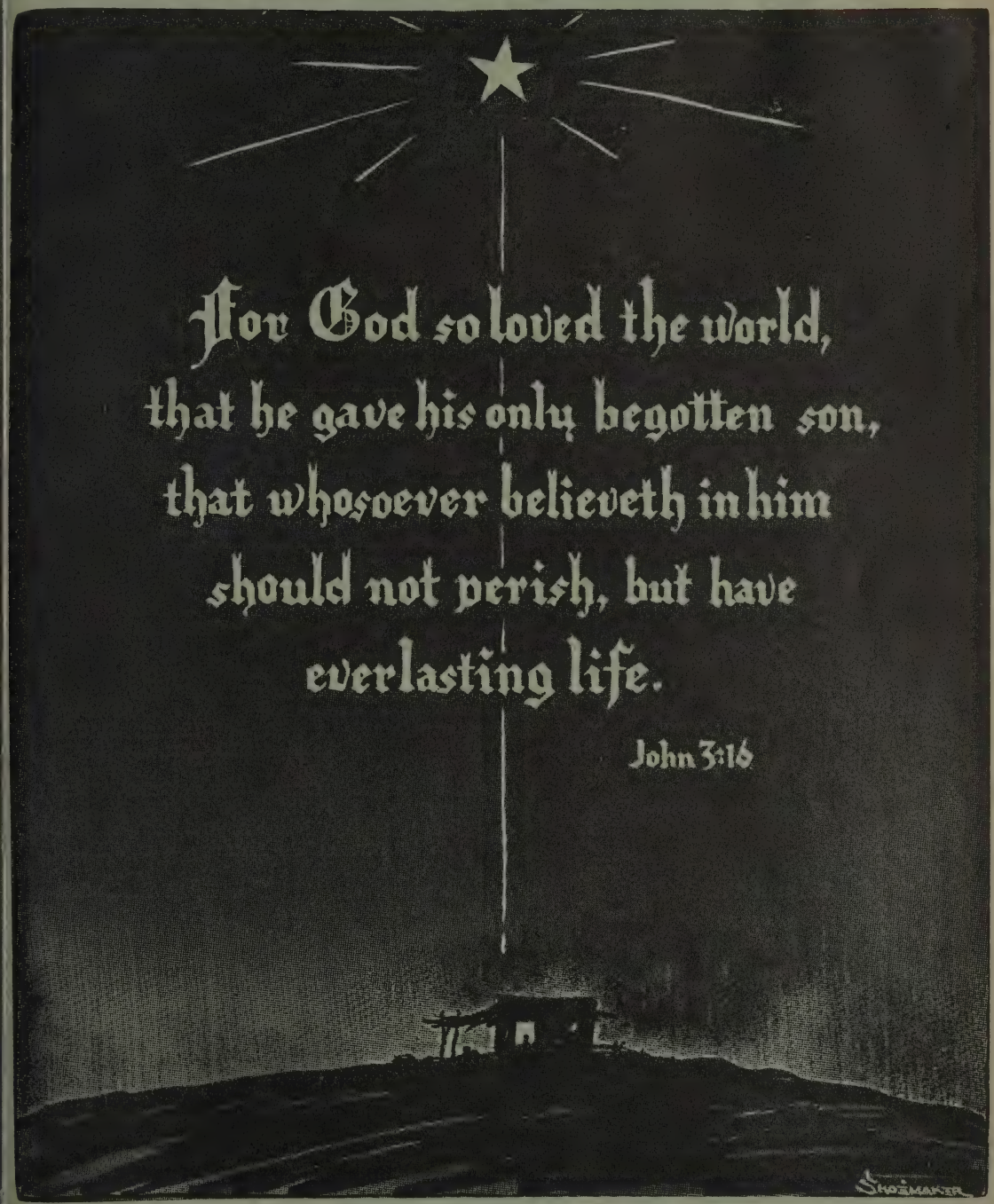

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Vol. XIX November-December, 1949 No. 6

THE CONGO INLAND MISSION

A Co-operative Mission in the Belgian Congo

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STATIONS AND MISSIONARIES

Charlesville

Rev. A. D. Graber
Rev. and Mrs. Roy O. Yoder
Miss Frieda Guengerich
Miss Anna V. Liechty
Rev. and Mrs. Glenn Rocke
Miss Aganetha Friesen
Rev. and Mrs. Russell F. Schnell
Miss Erma Beitler, R. N.

Mutena

Miss Mable Sauder
Rev. and Mrs. Elmer Dick
Rev. and Mrs. Geo. B. Neufeld
Miss Lois Slagle, R. N.
Miss Lodema Short
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Entz

Nyanga

Rev. and Mrs. Henry A. Toews
Miss Anna H. Quiring
Miss Selma Unruh
Rev. Frank J. Enns
Miss Kornelia Unrau

Mukedi

Dr. and Mrs. Merle Schwartz
Rev. and Mrs. Vernon Sprunger
Miss Agnes Sprunger
Miss Agnes Lutke
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Rempel
Rev. and Mrs. James E. Bertsche

Bruxelles, Belgium

Rev. and Mrs. John B. Jantzen
Miss Tina Quiring

On Furlough

Miss Fanny Schmallenberger
Mrs. Frank J. Enns
Mrs. Emma Moser
Miss Erma Birky

Retired

Rev. and Mrs. John P. Barkman

Recently Accepted

Mr. and Mrs. Levi Keidel
Rev. and Mrs. Robert Bontrager

Address of mission and all missionaries except Mukedi Station and Mutena Station.
Charlesville, Kasai District, Congo Belge, Africa.
Cable address **Conin, Charlevsille, Congo Belge.**
Mukedi Station Address: **Mukedi, par Kikwit, District, du Kwango, Congo Belge, Africa.**
Mutena, via Tshikapa, Kasai Dist., Congo Belge, Africa.

The above missionaries represent the following religious bodies:
General Mennonite Conference (18)
Central Conference Mennonites (11)
Evangelical Mennonite Conference (14)
The Evangelical Mennonite Brethren (5)
Missionary Church Association (1)

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THE CONGO MISSIONARY MESSENGER

Vol. XIX **Berne, Indiana, November-December, 1949** **No. 6**

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Editor: Rev. C. E. Rediger.
Associate Editor, Mrs. C. E. Rediger

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Why We Must Have Missions.

Christmas once held forth a story
Eager men rejoiced to hear,
But the fervor of their worship
Faded with each passing year.

Once, the name of Baby Jesus
Caused staunch men in prayer to pause;
Now Yuletide with all its tinsel
Emphasizes Santa Claus.

Long ago, the precious Christ-child
Came to bless a dying world.
He brought Peace and Love and Mercy,
But these to one side are hurled.

Now, the pleasure-centered humans,
Breaking all the sacred laws,
Teach a vastly different story;
Not Lord Jesus—but Santa Claus.

Men of old found joy in giving
Gifts of love and sacrifice,
But today, "Exchange" is fashion
And we judge in terms of "price."

What has dimmed the joy of Christmas.
Where is cheer and merriment.
We, ourselves, have changed its meaning
By our greed and discontent.

Not satisfied to own a Savior
Sent from God to bear our cross;
Robbed of truth, we see our Jesus
Shadowed by a Santa Claus. —Selected.

A Blessed Christmas Season to All!

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Editorials

PLEASE NOTE! The address of the Congo Inland Mission is 4612 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois.

* * *

"A BIT OF HEAVEN" Congratulations are in order! On August 18, at our Mukedi Hospital, there was born to Rev. and Mrs. Geo. T. Neufeld, a baby boy. The little fellow has been given the name of Oren Ray. Our last news from them is that all are fine and this little "bundle" spreads sunshine even on a rainy day. Welcome to our missionary ranks, little man; may your environment be such that it will be easy for you to be a servant of the Lord among those who need the Gospel Story so much.

* * *

ARRIVED! In a letter dated September 28, 1949 "abroad the Leopoldville" this interesting and encouraging paragraph written by Rev. James Bertsche appears: "We are taking a plane from Leopoldville the 11th of October for Kikwit. Since it leaves at seven in the morning, we'll probably be at Kikwit yet before noon. Thus, the Lord willing, we should get to Mukedi yet that same evening." Our hearts are filled with thanksgiving for Divine care and protection while they traveled. How much we appreciate missionaries who are eager to "get going" on the things they have set out to do. Rev. and Mrs. Bertsche, no doubt, have by this time been introduced to the mission station activities and welcomed royally by the native Christians. Miss Irma Beitler, R. N., who traveled with them, was to remain in Leopoldville for a month to finish her tropical medical course. Our prayers should be intensified in their behalf, realizing we have sent them forth, to serve in our stead, but for Jesus' sake.

* * *

HOME TO THE STATES Miss Erma Birky will soon be returning to the States for her furlough among us and loved ones. In a letter from her dated August 21, Miss Birky writes: "The date for sailing is October 16th. But that only means that I'll be in the vicinity of Boma. Being a freighter, it may not set sail until the beginning of November. My mind is filled with plans for my furlough but yet in some ways I'd rather stay right here." What makes a missionary a missionary? Crossing the Atlantic Ocean? No, a thousand times no, but a desire from the heart to go and remain among those who are so benighted and sorely in need of the Gospel. May God definitely increase our desires as such and may He protect and keep Miss Birky as she travels. May the blessings and inspirations from her being "home again" be mutual.

* * *

SAILING DATES Elsewhere in this issue of the Messenger you will be reading an article by Miss Tina Quiring from Mountain Lake, Minn. The boat on which she leaves for Bruxells, Belgium is to sail from New York on October 14. Miss Quiring is the third daughter from the family of Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Quiring to go to our mission field in the Congo.

(Continued on page 10)

Letters from the Field

GREETINGS FROM "THE LAND OF SUNSHINE"

By Mrs. Russell Schnell

Dear Christian Co-workers:

Greetings from far-off Africa, the land of Perpetual Sunshine. We think of you all so often and continually remember you in our prayers, but the time flies by so fast when there is so much to do that we do not get time to chat with you by mail. As July is my month to relate to you of its incidents, I will proceed:

On July first we had enrollment of school students for the coming semester. As this is a National Holiday we did not stress they had to be there, but quite a number turned out to our surprise. We started school, however, the following Monday and have been going strong since that time. The students continued to enroll, however, for the entire week as some had quite a distance to come and they had had only a month's vacation. The enrollment went up to 600 students which included the Girls' School. The girls' enrollment that is supervised by Miss Guengerich is 114 this semester. We are very glad that such a large number of girls take an interest in wanting to learn.

During the month of June everything had been rather quiet around the station, but now since school had begun again the attendance in church had picked up and more activity appeared on the scene since the students and also some of our local people had come back from their month of vacation of seeing their relatives. Carolyn was also enjoying her vacation from Lubondai, and we were very happy to have her with us during the months of June and July.

July 21st was a National Holiday and we were to help the Government celebrate this day at the nearest government post. We were asked to take part in the program. So we practiced the national Congo song and a few others with the school children. We also made some little paper caps with the letters C. I. M. printed on them and a large flag with C. I. M. printed on it. The school children wore the paper caps, and all went to the celebration even if it was about 15 miles one way to walk it.

As the one-ton truck was not on the station at the time the missionaries most all went in the 1929 model A Ford. We were almost afraid it would not get us there as some of the parts are just not workable anymore. Several of us went with a Belgian friend of ours that has an oil company about seven miles from here. The three-ton Mutena truck was at this time on the station so we made use of that also taking the school teachers and ball players in it.

Miss Friesen and Miss Guengerich, however, felt they could not get away, and we felt the little babies should not go as it was in the midst of the dry season so Carolyn offered to take care of Junior and Miss Friesen of David. The government official from our territory (Luebo) gave us a very nice welcome when we arrived, and we lined up the school children.

After the ceremony of flag raising the Catholic students sang the Belgian National song. Then our school students sang the Congo National song, after which they all marched around the grounds several times. As our students marched they sang a French Christian hymn. It thrilled our hearts to see such a large group representing the true cause ring out in song as they marched along.

The rest of the program consisted of bicycle race, rope pulling (or tug of war), sack race, foot races and other races, after which our football boys played against a group chosen by the government official. The official had asked us all to join them in the noon meal together. We all sat around one large table together with the priest, Portuguese traders, Belgians and the government official, enjoying a very good sociable time together and eating the food cooked as the natives eat

their food. Rice and chicken, also native spinach. The chicken and spinach was cooked in palm oil.

The day came to a close with the football game and our team won by 6 points (6-0). The boys were very happy over this and received a small gift from the government.

Then we turned homeward tired but glad that we could represent the Christian Cause in such a large group. As we had packed a lunch to eat at the grounds not knowing we would be invited out we came home and all had it together at our home.

This being the dry season the water has gone down quite a little in the Kasai river, and the falls which are two and a half miles from here can be seen. So the missionaries decided to make a day of it and go on July 23rd to see it. Some native fishermen have large nets and funnel shaped basket traps hidden among the rocks of the falls and it is very interesting to see them pull in the fish toward evening. The falls are not deep but very pretty as the water rushes tumbling over the large rocks in the river.

Perhaps you would like to know what each one of us do from day to day. During the school days Russell, Anna, Frieda and I are kept quite busy teaching, overseeing and so forth at the school. Glen and Archie taking care of the building program and carpenter work. Glen goes itinerating from time to time whenever he can. Ina teaches Marilyn and Leland in school and takes care of the women's work; Aganetha has the large ever-increasing medical work to see after. Mr. Yoder the office and Betty the Bible school and numerous lesson helps that we are using in the graded school. Of course there are many other tasks to be done that are not mentioned here, and village visitation by the missionaries that do not have family duties although I did make several visits while Carolyn was home with the children.

Please Note! The address of the **Congo Inland Mission** is 4612 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago 15, Ill.

THE NEW EDUCATIONAL SET-UP

Dear Friends,

Some time ago I said I would write a bit about the educational set-up as it is at the present time, what our needs are and what you could do about it.

Will now try to quickly cover some of the most important points to think about, in order to give an overall picture of the situation as we see it here in Congo.

Last October (1947) an agreement was signed with the government that we were willing to collaborate with them in the educational program insofar as we are able to do so, and that we are going to make an effort to live up to our part of the agreement.

Such a step has been pending for many years, not only by our mission but by many other Protestant missions in this land. I remember that as far back as 1932 advances were made to the government in regards to putting our schools on an equal basis with those of the Catholic church. Our schools have had a good reputation for many years but the pupils that emerged from our schools were never given the same recognition as those completing the course of study in other schools than Protestant. This inequality comes to an end with the cooperation of our mission with the government in education and gives our schools official recognition.

With financial help from the government we will be able to have better schools with the same amount of support from the home land. Where there are requirements to be met there is aways more effort put forth and the additional effort means a better school.

There, however, are problems that must be met. There are buildings and missionary personnel to teach in the schools for teacher training, and a much better trained native teaching staff for the primary school.

Not one of our stations has school buildings that meet the government standard. Our rooms are too small, ceilings too low, too few windows, seats insufficient, etc. We have been doing things in a pioneer way, and do need to make improvements.

Some of the school buildings are nearly enough standard to pass but any new classrooms must meet the specifications. It is hoped that at Mukedi we will be able to build one two-room building in 1950 for the Primary School, with government help.

The subjects taught in the primary school are the following: Religion (subject matter and amount of time to be decided by religious authority—in other words, the mission itself), native language (reading, writing, spelling, composition), lessons in observation, talks on personal and altruistic education (politeness, conduct, hygiene), arithmetic, drawing, music, gymnastics and manual labor. More advanced classes add agriculture, and French, as well as geography.

To have the proper certified African teaching staff, we are required to have schools for teachers in training. There are two different grades of normal schools, the more elementary to prepare teachers for the teaching of the first two or possibly three years, and the other normal school for the next three years. Both of these normal schools must be taught by missionaries. All primary schools should have certified African teachers by January, 1954.

A period of five years has been given for all schools to meet the conditions as set forth by the government for all schools that are to be recognized as worthy of government aid, however, grants are made for buildings and existing schools are recognized as subsidizable by the government even now where a spirit of cooperation is seen by the State inspectors as they visit the various stations and the established schools, when the mission has signed the convention with the State.

Last year our schools were inspected at Charlesville, Nyanga and Mukedi, and each of the station schools were accepted as subsidizable, but of course with suggested changes.

Here is the proposed set-up as we see it on the Field at present: At least two training schools for the teachers who will be in the classrooms of the first few years of school. (At present because of the urgency and because we felt we can do it just now we are teaching the teachers in training at each of the stations. This school is known as a COURS D'APPRENTISSAGE PEDAGOGIQUE and is a two year course. At the end of 1950 we should have some qualified teachers.) Then there must be one school for the training of the teachers who will be in the classrooms of the second degree schools (these latter we have at every mission station and will eventually be introduced into what are known as the regional schools, so there will be a demand for teachers). This then is the general organization of our schools:

Primary Schools—First Degree at every station, every regional school and in the villages as well. In our present schools of this type we employ a staff of at least 350 teachers throughout the mission.

Primary Schools—Second Degree at every station, and being introduced in a few regional schools. At this time we employ about 40 teachers in this type of schools.

Cours d'Apprentissage Pedagogique — We have started one of these at each of our stations, teaching the first year course this year and will teach both the first and second year starting January.

Ecole de Moniteurs (Normal School) is to be started at Mukedi station in January, 1950. The final location of this school has not been decided upon.

To be qualified as a teacher of these schools and as a director a missionary must hold a teacher's certificate in his homeland, spend at least one year in Belgium.

By January, 1954, these qualifications must be met if a school is to be considered up to par. That means:

One teacher holding a certificate at each station to be a Director of the station Primary School (first and second degrees).

Two teachers holding a certificate to teach in each school known as Cours d'Apprentissage Pedagogique.

At least four teachers holding certificates to teach high school to teach in the Ecole de Moniteurs.

By January, 1954, we will certainly have six stations and at least 2 Ecole de Cours d'Apprentissage Pedagogique, and one Ecole de Moniteurs; which adds up our personnel needs as follows for that date:

Ten teachers with a teacher's certificate to at least teach in a Grammar School.

Four teachers with a teacher's certificate to teach in High School.

We must also keep in mind that not one of the present missionaries on the field meets the above qualifications in not having spent the required time in Belgium. Pray for this Program.

Vernon J. Sprunger.

GOLDEN VIALS

"Golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints" (Rev. 5:8).

The prayers of His saints are in golden vials.
I picture the long, long rows
Which gleam in the light from the splendor of God,
Midst the fragrance of lily and rose.

And I think of the prayers which I sent up to Him,
Petty and selfish and weak,
And seeing them thus, I ask my shamed heart
How had my lips dared to speak.

Yet the prayers of His saints are so cherished by God
That He tenderly holds in His hands
The smallest of vials, the feeblest of prayers.
Then my humbled heart understands.

That the Spirit of God has taken my prayers,
Has molded, reshaped, and remade,
Until they accord with the sweet will of God;
And my soul is no longer afraid.

And I wonder if down through the eons of time,
Like a precious tale that is told,
He will treasure forever these prayers of His saints
In their fragrant vials of gold.

—Martha Snell Nicholson.

BUSY DAYS AT CHARLESVILLE

Dear Ones at Home,

It's Saturday—a day when we expect to get all sorts of odds and ends done, but usually end up by doing something else instead. Miss Friesen says the days are all pretty much alike in medical work for sickness never takes a holiday. The medical work is unusually heavy just now as there has been a great deal of sickness for the past month. Many people are ill with the flu. We hope that when the rains come this epidemic will end. We had one hard rain this week. The rainy season begins in September. We had had very little rain since May.

We are glad for the approach of the rainy season also because it means we will be able to get food out of our gardens. We are very thankful for the wire fencing which now encloses our gardens. This will prevent pigs and goats from eating our hard earned vegetables. We have some lettuce to eat now and also have set out tomato plants, but these need daily watering. After the rain on Tuesday night we planted a few beans, corn, and cucumbers, hoping another rain will soon follow. Otherwise we will have to do a lot of watering. When our water system is completed we will probably be able to do more dry season gardening. We are now able to pump the water to the top of the hill, but do not have enough pipe to pump it to the individual houses. We are hoping to get it soon now. This has been a great blessing, however, and saves the water men's strength a great deal. It was becoming difficult to find men who were willing to carry water.

Word came that we might expect a visit from the school inspector, his wife and little daughter this week end. Of course, we tried to have everything in good order, but he hasn't arrived yet. Perhaps he will be here tomorrow or Monday. I never did enjoy the Superintendent's visits and I don't look forward to the inspector's visit, especially since I can't speak his language. The one who came last year was quite nice and spoke English readily.

We have two of our school buildings covered with shingles and the third one is nearly finished. We also have new desks in one room and are working hard to get more desks finished. One severe criticism of the inspector last year was our lack of school desks. Things go slowly out here as our men

have to divide their time between so many tasks and the natives do not work fast unless they are continually urged on. So we are always happy to see such tasks completed.

I am teaching Bible lessons on the **Life of Christ** in the third grade and expect to finish this month. The book of Acts will follow in their course of study, but I am not sure who will be teaching that. I teach them in two groups, spending from thirty to forty minutes with each class each day. Afternoons from two to five I am occupied with the girls' classes and two afternoons have a half hour of catechism after that. We have a hundred and twelve girls enrolled in school and they are doing nicely. I have three native helpers to teach them and I also teach all afternoon. On Friday afternoon we have sewing with the older girls. Yesterday they were learning to make button holes. Some do it quite nicely.

Thursday noon Rev. and Mrs. Rocke left for a ten-day visit to the outstations. We single ladies are taking care of the children. They are doing very well. The Rocke's will visit the regional school at Banga where we expect to open the new station as soon as government permission is granted and then go on to other villages. I believe it will be a great encouragement to the women of the villages to see Mrs. Rocke.

I must close, wishing you all much joy in the Lord and asking for your continued prayers for this great work.

GREETINGS FROM OUR NURSE AT MUTENA

Mukedi
August 16, 1949

Dear Friends at Home,

At the present time the Neufelds and I are enjoying the kind hospitality of the Mukedi missionaries—while awaiting the arrival of their little one. They are making our days of waiting very pleasant. The missionaries here —in addition to their many station duties— are carrying a heavy load in the constant entertaining they must do. There are many people who come to consult the doctor. They also entertain many who pass through on the highway; for they find this a convenient lodging place.

At Mutena we are having many "mothers-in-waiting" coming to the station to await the arrival of their babies. Our five grass houses are constantly occupied by medical patients. Thus we have quite an African population on the station. Some of them are indisposed and unable to walk to the regular church services, others felt they were not properly clothed to attend. In view of these circumstances, it was deemed wise to hold a special service on Sunday morning at the maternity ward. Sometimes there are as many as thirty in attendance. Many of them had never attended church—much less heard of Jesus Christ. They did not know whose Son He was. There is no joy that can be compared to that which comes to the one who has as his listener one who has never heard the Gospel story. Their minds have been darkened by sin and superstition, and it is difficult for them to grasp the truth of the liberty in Christ. It makes our hearts rejoice to see the old heathen grandmothers attempting to sing "One Door and Only One," and again, "Into My Heart."

We have been giving each one in attendance a picture depicting a Bible story. For most of them it is the first time that a picture has been their own prized possession. Invariably they turn the picture upside down, for they are not familiar with pictures.

The group is continually shifting. Thus we have an opportunity to reach many with whom we as a mission have no other contact. There are those who will only hear the story while they are with us; consequently, our responsibility is tremendous. Will you pray with us that the seed which is sown in

these brief days might fall on good soil and bring forth fruit unto everlasting life?

Sincerely in Him,

Lois Slagle.

A VAST PROCESS

Ceaseless, silent, swiftly moving
Downward to the realms of night,
Day by day a vast procession
Passeth out of human sight!

Millions yet on millions teeming
Still the ranks unbroken keep,
Onward, ever onward sweeping
To that last, that awful leap!

From the dewy morn till midnight,
From the midnight till the dawn,
Over rocks and mountains dreary,
Roughest roads or velvet lawn.

Still this awful death march moveth,
Ghostly, silent as the tomb,
Onward, onward, onward tramping,
Onward to the day of doom!

—The Other Sheep.
Miss Tina Quiring, Mt. Lake, Minn.

THE SECRET

I met God in the morning,
When the day was at its best;
And His Presence came like sunrise,
Like a glory in my breast.

All day long the Presence lingered,
All day long He stayed with me;
And we sailed in perfect calmness
O'er a very troubled sea.

Other ships were blown and battered,
Other ships were sore distressed
But the winds that seemed to drive them
Brought to us a peace and rest.

Then I thought of other mornings,
With a keen remorse of mind,
When I too had loosed the moorings,
With the Presence left behind.

So I think I know the secret
Learned from many a troubled way—
You must seek Him in the morning,
If you want Him through the day

—Ralph Cushman.

EDITORIALS

(*Continued from page 4*)

What a sacrifice!—no, indeed, what a privilege! Miss them? Yes, many times; yet Brother Quiring's testimony to his home church was "I have not sacrificed anything. God has called them and we consider it an honor that He should favor us so highly." God bless and keep and give us many more such homes!

* * *

OFF TO THE CONGO

Rev. and Mrs. Samuel Entz's sailing date from New York to the Congo has been set for October 15. During their last hours among us, they left a testimony of praise and gratefulness for the privilege of being sent among such a needy people. They will be working at Mutena Station. Mrs. Entz, being a registered nurse, will find many, many duties to perform, even while she is makng adjustments and learned the native language. Rev. Entz is an industrialist and multiplied will be his tasks in a material way, beside the evangelistic work that will also be assigned to him. Our prayers and interest should be many in their behalf.

HEAVENLY REST

Word has no doubt reached most of our readers of the passing of Mrs. L. B. Haigh, nee Rose Boeshning, at her home in Roseboro, N. C., August 22, 1949. Many of those who read these columns may never have known Mrs. Haigh personally, but all must know of her by name and by the service she rendered in the beginning of foreign missionary endeavor by the Central Conference in East Africa, and later in the founding of our own work in Congo.

It was over thirty-eight years ago, (April 19, 1911) when Mrs. Haigh and her husband, Rev. L. B. Haigh, sailed from New York for Congo via

(*Continued on page 21*)

MINUTE MEDITATIONS

Even words of judgment must be spoken graciously.

* * *

You rule over your thoughts until you speak them: then they rule over you.

* * *

If anyone hands you a lemon, make lemonade out of it.

* * *

You will never be able to push a button on your thinking machine.

* * *

Quite often our zeal is over run by the lack of knowledge.

* * *

He who loves God, loves everyone.

* * *

It is one thing to say, "I believe," but a far different thing to say, "I have faith."

* * *

Not to enjoy life but to employ life, should be our aim and aspiration.

* * *

You will get a lot more mileage out of life if you don't shift into high before you have your brain turned over.

* * *

All I have seen but teaches me to trust Him for things I have not seen.

* * *

Get your shoulder to the wheel rather than your back to the wall.

* * *

Time will reveal why you have been tried.

* * *

Is God able to bless the world through you?

* * *

Would you need to conceal your real purpose from the brethren?

* * *

Has your theory a practical side to life?

* * *

Do your personal rights exclude social rights?

* * *

If everyone were doing as I am doing, what then?

* * *

Are you living by the rule that applies to everyone?

No act is really right unless it can be shown before your loved ones.

* * *

Yesterday is not today.

* * *

A Christian home is a place to reveal Divine dimensions.

* * *

The person who is too busy to do business for God, is too busy.

* * *

If Christ is to be real to you, He must be royal in your life.

* * *

Love is the best medicine for the ills of life.

* * *

Faith reaches beyond human limitations.

* * *

The person who doesn't know and doesn't know that he doesn't know, is difficult to deal with.

* * *

When sorrow is shared, it hurts less.

* * *

It would be far better to improve our actions, than to continue to defend them.

* * *

It is a wise adversary who fights his enemy with his own weapons.

* * *

We resent those who are stronger than we are.

* * *

If you won't do things you even dislike for those you love, it isn't the real thing.

* * *

How foolish to try to do God's work in our own strength or without God's power.

* * *

The feeling of security is no proof of safety.

* * *

Great advantages may prove to be great curses.

* * *

Retribution that has overtaken others ought to be a warning to us.

* * *

Nothing is a failure that is done in obedience to His word.

ENCOURAGING LINES FROM MUKEDI

Dear Friends:

And let us not be weary in well doing; Galatians 6:9a.

This verse has been brought to my attention several times recently, perhaps because I was getting physically tired from the abundance of tasks that it seems we all have falling to our lot. We do praise Him for the strength that He gives for us to carry on in face of all difficulties and hardships and disappointments. His promise is "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28.

Mukedi has been a busy place since our arrival here in January. Tasks and duties seem to have multiplied as never before. The Hospital has never been as busy as it has these past months. Large numbers of people have been coming to us for help and we continually pray and also ask your prayer help that many of these might also find spiritual help and come to know and accept our Lord as their personal Savior.

Among those that come for surgical help hernia is still the most frequent disease. Among those we have found in the past months several who needed emergency surgery—and this might be at any hour of the day or night. Our night cases and the more difficult cases even in the daytime have been more easily attended to because of the electric lights that we now enjoy.

We do appreciate very much the gift of the electric plant.

Our physical equipment is gradually increasing to aid us in further and better care of the needy. Our new ward is going forward rapidly under Mr. Rempel's direction and we are looking forward to the day when we can put our new hospital beds into the new building. Slowly our hospital is being transformed into a more modern appearing place and we will not have to house the sick and the surgical patients in grass houses much longer. New sterilizing equipment is on the way too so that our surgical work will be facilitated also.

During the month of August we began the examination of the people in the vicinity of the station for sleeping sickness. As in past years we are finding very few new cases this year.

Perhaps it would interest you to hear of two of our most unusual cases this year. One was that of a woman who apparently had a hernia that was opened by mistake in the village by a man who did not know what her trouble was. He thought that he could drain pus from her mass by an incision and thus heal her. The other was a boy of about 10 years of age who fell from a palm tree and broke both wrists and a leg as well.

Building is a lively occupation around Mukedi these days for not only is a large hospital ward being built but also a large new school building and several other smaller buildings. Such activity takes materials so we have the big mission truck here to help us with our transport. Of course that requires more work for upkeep and for driving it and I've been helping a little with that task recently.

And now soon Miss Birky will be leaving for furlough and the Bertsches will be coming to strengthen the group of workers and to add their talents to the work of the Lord in seeking the lost of Congo. Pray without ceasing for each one of us that we may be used in this great work as He would have us to be.

Yours in Him,

Merle Schwartz.

EN ROUTE TO BELGIUM

Proverbs 3:5, 6. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

The Lord Jesus is the great guide of our life. In order to be guided by the Saviour, we must learn to trust Him with our whole heart. To trust does not necessarily mean that we understand all things. For years I tried to understand the leading of the Lord in my life instead of trusting Him to lead the way. Since I could not understand I was deeply burdened about it. One day the Lord revealed to me that I was not to lean on my own understanding but to trust Him. This truth has become very precious to me in my Christian life.

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and he shall direct thy paths." The Lord has promised to direct our Christian life in the right channel, if we are going to acknowledge His leading. The Lord has been wonderful to me, He has not failed to keep His Word. He led me step by step.

Often I wondered why the Lord led me to the Northwestern Bible School to get a Bible training, after which He opened the way for me to teach in the Mountain Lake Bible School. While teaching, my so-called vacation days were spent in school. At first I finished my high school work at the Minnehaha Academy then I took up college work. In 1947 I left my teaching position in order to finish my college work at Goshen College, Goshen, Indiana.

While at Goshen College, the Lord again spoke to my heart. As He was speaking to me I responded as I had often done before by saying: "Lord, thy will shall be done in my life no matter what the cost." The Lord took me at my word and challenged me as to my willingness to go into foreign mission work. I had to admit that I was not willing. The Lord knew that even if I was not willing, that I was willing to be made willing to do His will. I prayed to my heavenly Father for grace to become willing to do His will. The Lord did not fail me at this point, He gave me grace to become willing to do His will whatever it might be.

After careful consideration of mission work in the various mission fields, the work in the Congo Belgian was laid upon my heart. I promised the Lord to go to Africa if that was His will. Although, when I began to look at my inabilities, at the surrounding circumstances, and at the great demands of the mission field, I was discouraged. Looking at these outward circumstances made it seem impossible for me to go to Africa. When I had about reached the point of giving up the idea of going to Africa I realized that I had not given the Lord an opportunity to reveal Himself. It was necessary for me to apply to the mission board. After filling

Miss Tina Quiring, Mt. Lake, Minn.

out the application and sending it to the mission board, I committed the matter into the hands of the Lord.

While waiting for the Lord to reveal Himself to me, I accepted a teaching position at the Berean Academy, in Elbing, Kansas. At the close of the school year it seemed as if the door to Africa was closed. Shortly afterwards the Lord saw fit to begin to open one door at the time. He expected me to in simple faith step out and trust Him to lead the way. The Lord has gone before me and opened the way; therefore, I'm going to in simple faith trust Him to provide for my every need. Further I'm going to trust Him to use my life for the salvation of souls.

The Lord willing, I expect to sail for Belgium the 13th of October. I covet your prayers as I'm going forth to continue my preparation in Belgium for the educational work in the Congo. It is wonderful that we need not look at our insufficiencies, but instead we can take the challenge of the Lord given to Paul when He said: "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." My confidence is in Him who is the Almighty One.

Tina Quiring.

WHY I GLADLY GIVE

Because everything I have comes from God, and by giving part of my income to Him I thus acknowledge His ownership and my stewardship;

Because the church is the best institution I know of through which my money can most profitably be used to extend Christ's kingdom;

Because making a pledge, or giving regularly, reminds me constantly that I have a definite share in extending Christ's kingdom on earth;

Because the missionary and other agencies of the church have no other source of support than God's people, and they depend upon my support;

Because I am unwilling to accept the benefits of the church without my contributing something to its work;

Because by giving of my means to Christ and His church I am laying up treasures in heaven;

Because thus giving to the cause of God and His work keeps me from becoming selfish and indifferent.—**Selected.**

FISHING

We prayed very definitely before we started out, that the Lord would prepare the hearts of the people to whom we were going. In May we went to the south of the district. The villages are large. We had big audiences, and an attentive hearing, but few wanted to leave off the old customs, or leave idols for the true and living God.

In June we started to the north. Again we prayed that the Holy Spirit might prepare the hearts of the people in the district. The people in the north are even more loose in their morals than in the south. We found the people eager for the Word. In almost every village we visited during the first two weeks, there were from eight to fifteen people who said they wanted to follow the Lord and wanted to quit the old customs, with their idols, witchcraft and sorcery. We just praise the Lord for the many who accepted Christ in that district. But when we crossed the river and came into another part of the district they were quite frank in saying that they would not give up sin to accept Christ.

In eighteen days we visited 111 villages and had 127 meetings. Several times we had twelve to fourteen meetings in as many villages, before we came to a village where we found a house in which to camp. The people are eager for the written word as well as the personal message. We sold all the Kipende New Testaments we had and sent word to Mukedi for more. They too were sold out before we were ready to start home. A short twenty-five years ago, we didn't find people in the villages who could read. Now it is amazing how many, who have every appearance of a raw heathen, who read, and want to buy a N. T. Some who are covered from crown to toe with cosmetics, buy a New Testament and start reading at once. Pray with us that the Lord will prosper His Word, and that many may yet turn from idols to the Lord Jesus Christ their Saviour.

Just now we are doing a bit of follow-up work. We are in a large village, where we have never had a teacher. They have asked for years for a teacher. There are about twenty villages within a radius of five miles from here. Every morning we go to a group of villages for an evangelistic meeting. Going to a different group every day. In the early evening, after the people come home

from their work in the fields and in the forest, we start meetings in the village street. We have three such meetings, in different parts of this village. Then we have a meeting for the Christians in camp. People come from two villages a mile in opposite directions in the dark. After the meeting and they are dismissed, they continue to ask to sing more songs, and so we sing and sing, and sing some more. They know two or three songs, but are learning new songs. Some ask that the Bible be read to them again, and yesterday evening an elderly man asked that we pray again. As you see the meeting is very informal. How we do enjoy fellowship together. The evangelist who is with me this trip, gives a personal testimony so often in his message. He is not a young man, and must wear "specs" to read in the evening.

There is quite a large part of the north that we have not visited this season, and we have not been to the east of the district. So please continue to pray for us as we "go fishing" for the enemy is bidding high for their souls. We are often asked for cigarettes. New vices are being added to the old crimes. Again I beg your prayer help. We are in the Lord's fishing business.

Erma M. Birky.

EXAMPLE

I'd rather see a sermon,
Than hear one any day;
I'd rather one should walk with me
Than merely show the way.
The eye's a better pupil
And more willing than the ear;
Fine counsel is confusing
But example's always clear.
And the best of all the preachers
Are the ones who live their creed,
For to see good put in action
Is what everybody needs.
I soon can learn to do it,
If you let me see it done.
I can watch your hands in action,
But your tongue too fast may run.
And the sermon you deliver
May be very wise and true,
But I'd rather get my lesson
By observing what you do,
For I might misunderstand you
And the high advice you give;
But there's no misunderstanding
How you act and how you live."

MUTENA-GRAMS

A Distinguished Visitor

At the close of our own English Sunday afternoon service, we heard the familiar sound of an approaching motorcycle. In a few minutes our neighbors, the diamond mine prospector and his wife, arrived to pay a call. We were all about to take a walk with them through our gardens when again we heard the sound of an approaching vehicle—this time an automobile. As the car emerged through the small wooded area at the beginning of our lane, we recognized Mr. Graber's pick-up. In a few minutes we were greeting Rev. Orhneman, Mr. Enns and Mr. Graber. Mr. Orhneman, the secretary of the Congo Protestant Council, had arrived at Tshikapa a few hours earlier from Leopoldville, via the Sabena Air Lines.

The next morning Rev. Orhneman addressed the early morning African chapel service, with Mr. Graber acting as his interpreter. He pointed out to them the great part they have had in the program of the church thus far. He stressed the tremendous responsibility which rests upon the African church today, as it faces the challenging future.

We enjoyed his brief visit to our station and appreciated his well chosen words of advice to us in the various aspects of our work.

An Unknown Visitor

She arrived in our native village on a Tuesday afternoon. How she managed to reach here is difficult to understand. Every bone in her body protruded through the tightly stretched skin which made an attempt to cover it. Her physical appearance was anything but lovely. A large tumor on her face added nothing to her beauty. The village people reported her arrival to us in the hopes that we would bring her into the station and care for her. The African has not been taught to have pity and concern for the stranger. His interest extends little farther than his own clan. We, who have enjoyed the blessings of Christianity for our life time are inclined to severely judge our African brothers for their apparent unconcern for the needy. But this is a new "grace" which we must teach them.

Just the night before her arrival, she had been driven from a nearby native village;

for they said she was a ghost not a person. She spent the night out in the cold lying by the roadside. After her arrival at Mutena we made arrangements for her care. An attempt was made to treat her medically, but the disease had fastened itself on her body for too long. We tried to make her last days as comfortable as possible, for her life, without doubt, had been one of sorrow and heartaches. We were never able to learn where she came from or where she intended going. She testified that she had become a Christian sometime before through the witness of an African Christian in a mining camp. Just one short week after her arrival she passed out of a world that had been cruel to her—into a place of happiness and joy.

Called Higher

Tshiela Beneke was certainly one who knew and loved the Lord. At the cemetery the leader who offered the prayer mentioned that hers was a life without palavers or entangling affairs. No one could doubt the sincerity of her profession. Why God saw fit to call her from her little family of four children, we do not know nor is it ours to question.

During her illness she spent some time in our medical ward. It encouraged our hearts to see her read her Bible and to hear her words of resignation to the Lord's will. It was not easy for her to leave her family. The youngest was only four months old. Before her death, she made arrangements that the baby might receive milk from us. To her eldest daughter she gave real Christian advice just a few minutes before she passed on.

Our hearts ache for the little motherless children who have been so soon deprived of the tender care of this young Christian mother. We trust that they shall follow in her footsteps. We rejoice because we know Tshiela is in heaven.

Homeward Bound

It was Fanny's privelege to make the first lap of her homeward journey in the old Model A. The new car had succumbed to the ruts of the Congo roads and was in need of repair. So once more "Old Faithful" was called on to make the trip. On March the 2nd a group of us accompanied her to Tshikapa where she took the plane for Leopoldville.

When we reached Tshikapa a messenger came running with a message which reported that the plane would not be arriving in Tshikapa that day. This was a disappointment to all of us for we had hoped to see her off on the beginning of her journey. This necessitated our leaving her in Tshikapa and our returning to Mutena. However, we were happily surprised a few hours later to receive the word that the necessary repairs had been made on the plane and it would arrive in Tshikapa that afternoon. At approximately four o'clock she boarded the plane and in three short hours arrived in Leopoldville. Her trip to Leo was made in less time than the trip from Mutena to Tshikapa. We are praying that hers shall be a restful and profitable furlough.

WHY HE CAME

He came to live our life; to wipe away
our tears;
To give us sympathy in our sorrows and
our fears.
He came to die our death, to enter our
dark doom;
To conquer our last enemy; to rob the
grave of gloom.
He came clothed in the light to bid our
darkness flee;
For night to give us day, for death, immortality.

SOME SEEDS GROW

Just hoe your row
As you go . . .
Some seeds will grow,
and God will know
You hoe your row.

A missionary goes to plant a miraculous seed in the hearts of men.

A BUSY DAY AND ITS ACHIEVEMENTS

This is the end of another busy day and as I look back over the experiences that I have had I wonder if you would enjoy hearing of them.

Our morning chapel is held shortly after seven and immediately afterward I have women's roll call. It helps keep a record of how many are faithful in chapel attendance, brings the women together for announcements important to them, and to check on those who are ill, etc. Roll call finished there are usually various questions to answer, babies to admire, recommendations to give for various ailments before the last ones leave for home.

On my way to the hospital I am stopped first by a man who wants to know if I want to buy a pig. He has a big, fat one that he is sure I would like. Next a mission man stops me. He has his baby in his arms whom, he says, is very ill and will I look at him? I instruct him to go to the hospital where his child can be examined by the doctor and given treatment (although he already knows this very well). Last another man wants to know why the doctor does not operate on him. He has already waited a month and he does not want to wait longer. I explain again that there is a long waiting list for surgery and that during the last month the doctor has been gone nearly three weeks but nothing impresses him except that I cannot give him a definite date for his operation.

At the hospital I go first to the maternity ward. There we now have a full time worker, one of our Christian women, a widow who has been doing quite satisfactory work. The place looks quite clean, the babies are being bathed and the patients seem happy and content. I like also to visit the hospital patients although the doctor has likely seen them already at an earlier hour. There is little Kasongo, about seven years old who fell from a palm tree and broke both wrists and one thigh; Sele, who was in our girls compound a few years ago and now is married and has a lovely baby. She is here now for a bad infection in her left arm; there is Pierre a teacher from the Catholic mission who was shot by mistake (or otherwise, we are not sure). He seems to be happy here and was especially appreciative when one of the missionaries gave him a New Testament. We are praying especially for him that he may find Christ as his personal Saviour. After a word of greeting to these and the others there I go to see what medicines I can help with or questions I can answer about new patients. With a bit of pride we regard the new ward that is going up so quickly under the management of Larry Remple. How wonderful it is going to be with all the room, the new hospital beds, and the many conveniences it will give us.

Someone tells me that there is a helpless old man in the sick village and so I go out to see him. Sure enough, the old fellow is too sick to walk to the dispensary for his medicine. His folks have all deserted him so that he has nothing to eat, no water to drink or bathe with and he is truly alone. Arrangements are made for his medicine, messages sent to his people and temporary arrangements made for his food. He looks as if he cannot last long. We pray that the Holy Spirit will work in his heart that in spite of the hardships and neglect of the world he may have peace within.

Since five more packages of bandage, layettes, and other hospital supplies have come from the 'sub-office" at Normal, Ill., I go to our upstairs at home to unpack and sort them. It fills our hearts with joy to see this expression of the thoughts and cooperation of you folks in the homeland. What a time saver it is for us to have these supplies ready and waiting when we need them.

When I see the time has come when the dispensary work is nearly finished and the people are back again in the sick village, I go to them to have a meeting. Using Miss Lutke's portable phonograph draws the people in a hurry for they love music and it is a treat for them. With the use of large Sunday School picture rolls we have a short gospel message and prayer. As we leave some say, "Come again." Many call, "Thank you for coming." They really appreciate it and we pray that the seed sown may yield a great harvest.

We have guests at Mukedi right now (as we do a good share of the time.) Mrs. Dolby of the Canadian Baptist Mission is here awaiting the birth of her baby. They have dinner with us and we have and enjoy fine Christian fellowship. Our guests usually rotate from one home to the other until the round is made.

After dinner while the children are sleeping is time for a little rest, writing a letter, or doing a bit of reading. It is not long, however, until it is interrupted by someone for there is always someone hunting the "White mama" if for nothing but pictures in payment for an egg.

Every day when possible I like to go to the village to visit with the women. One has a chance too to see their homes, give advice about the children, lack of cleanliness, etc. It does little good to go before four o'clock as that is about the time they return from their fields. So that gives me a little time to go first to the hospital and see if there are some jobs awaiting me. Today I arrived in time to see a very sick baby. Because of a minor ailment it has been given native medicine in the village and now it looked near death. We can only pray that the Lord's will be done in this case. It does no good to scold and of course now the mother is beginning to feel sorry. If only they would come to us first we could do so much more for them. So one again explains patiently that next time they should come to us first. Another patient seems quite ill and the doctor tells her to stay at the hospital where she can be watched for further developments, receive her treatments and rest. When I leave to go to the village a little later I find her dragging herself back to her village for she says she has no one to help her. Her husband has left her and she cannot stay alone. These poor, poor people.

A Village Chief and His Family

In the village some of the women I had listed to see especially today are not at home. One woman whom I had planned to talk with is away. She is married to a baptized Christian but she herself has not made a confession. She does not seem happy and attends church very irregularly. I am praying for an opening to reach her heart and find some way to help her. Pray for her and the many other women who seem so indifferent to things of the Spirit. The children run out to say hello and to look at themselves in the bright metal of the bicycle light. (This bicycle, by the way, was the last gift I received from my father before he passed away and it has saved me many, many steps.) The women appreciate our coming even if it is only a word of greeting.

Supper over, the children bathed and in bed and comes the hour when one can catch up on the little things that are left during the day. Patching, darning, book work, letters, then a call at the window, "Mama, a new patient is at the maternity ward, can you come?" So the day closes. As we look back one wonders, how many opportunities did I pass up? How many people would have been helped by a few more words? Are we satisfied with what we have accomplished? Thank God that He willingly forgives our sins of ommission and commission and gives us a new day tomorrow to try again.

Yours for the Congo's Lost,

Dorothy Schwartz.

"On the darkest side of the road,
Where the sick and wounded lie,
They're calling for help and mercy
Oh, how can you pass them by?
The Saviour asks your love
In the service of want and pain;
And anything more that thou spendest
He'll pay when He comes again."

Christianity began in homes.

Please Note! The address of the **Congo Inland Mission** is 4612 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago 15, Ill.

IF I WERE A PASTOR

Missionary Counsel to the Youth of the Church*

By Ralph T. Davis

If I were a pastor, I would realize that there are few realms where my ministry is more effective than in that of counsel to the members of the church, and probably none are more affected than the younger members. Older ones mix counsel with experience and match it against their own desires and prejudices, but youth is open-minded and more inclined to take as its standard the opinion of a respected leader.

Recognizing that my preaching and teaching ministry is interspersed with counseling the flock, I need not be surprised if members seek me for advice, and there are none to whom my counsel is so important as to the young. The old members are nearing the end of the road; those in middle age are settled in their life's pursuits, but the young have their lives before them and are concerned about their life work and preparation for it.

Like any other pastor, I doubtless would have strong likes and dislikes some of which I should be cognizant of and some which I should little realize. For that reason, I would need to recognize that what may be excellent for me may not fit another and that a too forceful presentation of my will may result in the young person following me and not his Lord. Therefore I would need to learn how to give counsel without bias.

For many years I have been dealing with young people in schools and colleges in regard to full-time Christian work, especially on the mission field. Although their questions are many and seemingly varied, I believe they fall into a dozen or less basic categories, outstanding among which are these: What are the minimum qualifications? How old should one be? Do you recommend going out single or married? How much does it cost? Do you advise me to take up nursing? Is there a place for a teacher or technician? My own church is not interested in faith missions, but I am; what shall I do? How may I ascertain my field? I am now thirty-eight but feel definitely called to the foreign field, what shall I do?

A practical reply to these basic questions on the part of the adviser to Christian youth as they face the foreign mission field will largely solve their problems. Our first replies should be general. We should try to learn the questioner's thoughts, preferences, and projects, and also what may have been told him already by others.

Dr. Isaac Page has said that most young people come to us for sanction, not counsel, and I would say that he is right. Generally they state that they have done thus and thus and purpose to do thus and thus—what would we suggest? It takes a strong character to refrain from agreeing, or much tact to arrive at the place where the questioner will see the feasibility of a change of plans. If some youth leader has advised a certain course of action, the pastor will need to exert care in persuading his questioner that he disagrees with the counsel without disagreeing with the counselor.

I have found it advisable to break into the questioning as soon as convenient to ask young people to tell me a little about themselves—their early years, their likes and dislikes, what they feel they can and cannot do, generally asking them what, as small children, they planned to do when they grew up. Have they stuck to that? It is surprising what a wealth of information is gathered thus and how the seeker is helped by an approach to his life work, even for the Lord, from this avenue as well as from Mark 16:15.

Counsel to be effective and free from danger must lead the questioner to the Book. True guidance comes to the believer primarily from the Word of God. All other sources are secondary and but corroborate what God has said already.

(Used by permission.)

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*Fourth in a series of six articles on the missionary activity of the pastor and his church.

CHARLESVILLE ECHOES

By Russell F. Schnell

This is the second month of the second semester of school under this new State program. You ask, "How is it?" We answer, "It's all too new to be able to say we like it but it **is,** and **will be** necessary to like it, at least in part." At present we are too short-manned to carry it on as we are expected to do it, but by **you** giving of yourselves and praying for more laborers in His harvest field, it shall be done for His glory alone. As it is, most of us ladies teach both morning and afternoons in the classroom besides our leaders' classes, Sunday School classes, baptism preparatory classes and preparing various translation materials for the groups. Since we are such a depleted staff for such a large and grand opportunity and privilege of acquainting even the smallest children with the message of salvation amid the school curriculum, the institute and seminary groups must be in preparation to carry this message to their own people in the outlying districts which are sadly in need of constant encouragement and moral support as well. So—our task is tripled. Remembering, God is still on the Throne, and that this is His vineyard, we claim His promise "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest for laborers. "Won't you let Him move you to where He would have you? He is soon to return as He promised and what earthly possessions you have, will not remain with you! Won't you give yourself to Him to send you, "Where He needs you most"? We are praying and will continue to do so, as we labor on, until you come to help.

The air is tense with expectancy. The State Official School Inspector's arrival is the reason. The classes gather in long lines in the school campus with shining clean skins and stern business-like faces (which they feel they should always wear on inspection days). However, here and there one can see a twinkle in some eyes, not quite so strained with fear. The flag is raised and saluted, the national anthem is sung and the classes march into their class rooms, noiselessly today, and take their places, bow their heads in silent prayer as the teacher leads out in prayer. Class begins. The Inspector listens from the campus, corridors and office then enters any class room unannounced by a missionary or missionary teacher or superintendent. Afterwards he passes severe criticism verbally and in writing for State reports. The teacher, the subject matter, his teaching, his methods and the classes individually and collectively are as in court.

As I looked upon it all today, I said to the boy who helps me with my bicycle through the deep sand and up too steep hills, "Is it a scene of expectancy similar to that of the courts of glory? He said, "No, Mamma, because there, Christ is the Judge and a fair Master, "His face shone with joy as if he were one of them before Christ receiving his reward even now. We walked on slowly to the village before my class period to teach, he grinning, but not disclosing his thoughts, and I, deep in meditation. Yes, it all reminds me of these many who will stand at the judgment seat and say, "They never told us."

These are months of Conferences at home. Dear friends, how we've been praying that God through the challenging messages of conference speakers may stir and move your hearts to direct obedience. "Come over and help us" to tell each village of Jesus. The Lord not only needs you but He needs your **boat. Luke 5:2, 3.**

The Children's Church services are enjoyed by over 200 usually each Sunday early in the morning chapel service. Some R. C. children are willing to come even though it will mean a day of penitence and punishment from their group leaders and parents. Flannelgraphs help to minister to their souls through the windows of their eyes and ears plus the message.

The choir loft is practically full and their singing has a great part in the giving out of the message from Sunday to Sunday. They do not always have special numbers in the service but their singing of the congregational hymns challenges everyone to sing also. The choir this term is a chosen group from the 5th grade of elementary school students plus the students taking post graduate work in the School of Pedagogy.

The furlough committee says we may begin our furlough in December, the Lord willing, but with the demands so great and the workers so few we can hardly see how the

work can be divided up any more than it is, for the tent ropes are stretched to their extremities of human resistance so we feel we must remain unless help comes. The days are so short and His blessings are many as His coming draws near. We praise God for the applications and preparations of a number of new candidates. Won't you too come over and help while it is yet day?

While Jeremiah was shut up in prison in the house of the King of Judah, beseiged by the King of Babylon, God gave to him, in those dark hours, a message which caused Jeremiah to pray as never before. As Jeremiah prayed, God answered. "Call unto me, and I will answer thee and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Jeremiah 33:3.

So we pray, believe, and work on while He answers.

Won't you let Him use your boat, that yet many more might hear His message?

God bless each faithful child of His and challenge your hearts to sweet obedience to His will.

Your Co-laborers at Charlesville.

EDITORIALS

(*Continued from page* 10)

London and Antwerp, leaving their little ones behind with relatives here at home. In London they spent some time learning as much as they were able about conditions and missionary activities in Congo. Then they crossed the Channel to Antwerp and thence to Matadi at the head of ocean navigation on the Congo River. Covering the unnavigable part of the river from Matadi to Leopoldville by train, they rode in cars that as Mrs. Haigh wrote to a friend, "were more like cattle trucks than railway cars." From there they made the long and uncertain trip up the Congo and Kasai rivers to Luebo, a Presbyterian mission located just east of what is now our C.I.M. field.

Learning much from the Luebo missionaries about an unoccupied field to the south and west from Luebo, they organized a caravan of carriers and set out to explore that region, coming first to the village of Kalamba. Being encouraged by the people at Kalamba to start work there, they set out northward and finally reached the present site of Charlesville station. Then they returned to Luebo to report to the home board their findings and await the arrival of another missionary to help chose the field and the location of stations.

This was pioneering in the purest sense of the term. Mrs. Haigh was the first woman ever to be seen in those parts. As such she was regarded with much curiosity and fear on the part of the natives who shrank back when she offered them her hand in a gesture of friendship. She saw the spot literally hewed out of the jungle where Charlesville station now stands. Traveling as they were obliged to do was slow, hazardous, and tiresome; but God overshadowed His hardy adventurers.

In 1936 she suffered a paralytic stroke from which she never recovered; but patiently suffered her affliction until she quietly passed away on the morning of August 22. All who knew her knew that she had a passion for lost souls and was a woman of prayer with a great love for the Word of God.

THEY DO THEIR PART

By Genevieve Cheney

The missionaries do their part,
Pouring out their all.
They make a living sacrifice
In answer to the call.

Can it be said, "We do our part"?
Could this be said of you?
To pray, and help financially
Is all we're asked to do.

Our part seems small beside of theirs;
They leave their homes behind,
To bring the light to multitudes
Whose eyes with sin are blind.

They cannot do their part if we
Neglect to do our own;
So let us help with prayers and means,
And do our part at home!

"HE GOETH BEFORE US"

Dear Christian Friends:

"The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad," are the words we would voice with the Psalmist. We just praise the Lord for the way He has so marvelously opened the doors for us that we might go forth this soon. Not only has He opened doors but He has also supplied needs that were lacking. Yes, we have again so wonderfully experienced John 10:4, "And when he putteth forth His own sheep, He go-

Rev. and Mrs. Samuel Entz, Newton, Kans.

eth before them . . ." In ourselves we feel so unworthy and incapable but again we turn to His precious Word and read in II Cor. 3:5, "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God." We have a great Saviour, and we count it a joy to be ambassadors for Christ. An ambassador has a message to proclaim wherever he is sent in this big world, and likewise we as Christ's ambassadors have a glorious message to herald the world over.

In just a few hours we will board the TRITON steamer and start on our long voyage to Africa. There is always a tone of sadness in saying "farewell" to loved ones but we must look beyond that. Here on earth we are pilgrims and strangers for our citizenship is in heaven. As we look to Calvary's cross, where Jesus died for the sins of the world, by giving His life blood to redeem us and all mankind from their sins, and then look to the millions who have never heard, we keenly feel our great responsibility to "go and tell."

We wish to thank all of you dear ones who are daily upholding us with arms of prayer. May the Lord richly bless you and reward you for your vital part in proclaiming the good news of salvation.

Happy in His service,
Leona and Samuel Entz.

CHRISTMAS

The church-bells of innumerable sects are all chime-bells today, ringing in sweet accordance throughout many lands, and awaking a great joy in the heart of our common humanity.—**E. H. Chapin.**

* * *

'Tis the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial fire of charity in the heart—**W. Irving.**

* * *

It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas when its Mighty Founder was a child Himself. —**Charles Dickens.**

PRAYER AND MISSIONS
By Lois Slagle

In the business of missions, prayer comes first. When Jesus looked upon the whitened harvest fields, He might have called immediately for laborers, or organization or money. Each plays an important part in the missionary enterprise. But more important is the release of the divine power through prayer. So Jesus put prayer foremost in the business of missions.

And in the business of prayer, missions comes first. When Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He said, "When ye pray, say Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name . . . " That was the reverent approach. Then what? "Thy kingdom come." That means missions. "Daily bread" and selfish interests follow. "Seek ye first the kingdom . . . and things shall be added . . . " So Jesus put missions first in the business of prayer.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts for months of August and September, 1949, from Central, E.M.C., E.M.B. and General Mennonite Conferences.

Central—

Missionary Allowances	$1180.59
Evangelistic	225.45
Educational	155.00
Medical	41.00
General	1057.60
Special:—	
Tuition for Jonathan Yoder	115.00
Total Central	$2774.64

E. M. C.—

Missionary Allowances	$1176.67
Evangelistic	165.00
Medical	135.00
Clothing	125.00
General	1060.01
Special:—	
Missionary Retirement Fund	316.00
Bashilele Project	382.26
Personal for Rev. & Mrs. James Bertsche	30.00
Personal for Rev. & Mrs. Glenn I. Rocke	60.00
Dominican Republic—	
General	1714.99
Total E.M.C.	$5164.93

E. M. B.—

Missionary Allowances	$1025.76
Operating Budget	695.61
Insurance Premiums	128.25
General	5.00
Total E.M.B.	$1854.62

General Men. Con.—

Missionary Allowances	$1595.50
Evangelistic	250.10
Operating Budget	848.74
Insurance Premiums	302.78
Promotional	2.00
Special:—	
Personal for Rev. F. J. Enns	35.00
Personal for Miss Anna H. Quiring	45.37
Total General	$3079.49

Other than Central, E.M.C., E.M.B., and General Mennonite Conferences:—

Missionary Allowances	$ 275.00
Evangelistic	8.47
Promotional	2.00
Passage	58.00
Special:—	
Personal for Miss Selma Unruh	21.00
Dominican Republic:—	
Missionary Allowances	600.00
General	250.00
Total Other than Central, E.M.C., E.M.B, and General Mennonite Conferences	$1214.97
Total Receipts	$14,088.65

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?

To know Him as He is today,
Not as a manger babe
But as the One
Who lived and died,
And lives again,
Enthroned, and reigning
In my heart;

To sense the need of men
Who only know
The tinsel and the rushing
Of the crowds,
Who celebrate a day
And nothing more,
Because to them
He slumbers yet in Bethlehem;

To love Him and His Word
Above all else,
And loving, wish to tell men
Everywhere
The tidings of redemption . . .

THIS IS CHRISTMAS!

—Anonymous.

A CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

Out in heathen countries,
Far over land and sea,
Are thousands of little children
Calling to you and me!

They want to know the Story
That blessed angels sing—
The beautiful, wondrous Story
How Jesus was born to be King!

They want us to tell them quickly
That His Life for them was given,
That He blessed them here on earth,
And waits for them in Heaven!

—Sel.

Am I Spirit Filled?

If I drop a dollar in the collection basket to be seen of others when my heart desires to give only a quarter?

If I am reverent in church with the hope of making a good impression while my mind delights in thinking its own thoughts?

If I am not daily conscious of the Holy Spirit within me prompting me to do right, am I really spiritual?

If I am not made conscious of God by the beauty of the mountains, the sunset, and the changing seasons?

If I get irritable when things don't go my way?

If in my secret heart I would rather stay in bed or at home and read or rest on a Sunday morning than go to church?

If I can not differ with the philosophy of another unless I get warm and feel a lack of love?

If I am ever rude or unkind?

If I do not respect the rights of others, with the result that they are made uncomfortable?

If I am not just as conscious about the little things as of the larger things of life?

If I am not spiritually warmed when I read or hear God's Word read?

If I am careless and indifferent about getting to church on time?

If I worry about the future?

If I cannot admit when I am wrong?

If I can criticize another for his faults or for sin and yet fail to pray for him?—Sel.